

#### FACULTY OF NURSING

# RHEUMATIC FEVER

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#### **Definition**

Rheumatic fever is an inflammatory disease that can develop when strep throat or scarlet fever isn't properly treated. Strep throat and scarlet fever are caused by an infection with streptococcus.

#### Incidence

Rheumatic fever is most common in 5- to 15-year

old children, though it can develop in younger

children and adults.

#### **ETIOLOGY**

- ➤ Infection of upper respiratory tract with group A streptococci
- Previous infection with group A streptococci can be documented by laboratory evidence of rising antibody titers.

#### Clinical features

- Tachycardia
- Cardiomegaly
- Chest pain
- Changes in ECG
- Polyartheritis
- Erythematous
- Speech disturbance
- Muscles weakness
- fever

### **Diagnosis**

- ➤ Presence of two major or one major and two major criteria plus evidence of a preceding streptococcal infection.
- ➤ Echocardiography
- ➤ Chest X-ray
- **➤** Electrocardiography
- ➤ Blood test

#### Management

Anti-inflammatory drugs-Asprin or Corticosteroids

Ibuprofen

• Antibiotics- penicillin, erythromycin

## THANK YOU