

Follow Up Checks

Weekly review with GP or ED nurse for urine dipstick, weight and blood pressure for 6 weeks. This will help to check for kidney problems.

Then review by a Consultant Paediatrician at 6 weeks.

Final review by your GP or Paediatrician at 6 months from onset. A small number of children will need a check-up yearly.

Return to your Doctor or hospital if your child gets any of the following symptoms :

- increasing stomach pains
- swelling in joints
- blood in poop



We would like to hear your feedback

Did you find this leaflet helpful?

How can we improve?

Return/email suggestion to
Sharon.moran@amnch.ie

Print and Design by Medical Photography and
Illustration Department
AMNCH

Patient Information Leaflet

HSP





WHAT IS HSP

HSP stand for Henoch-Schonlein Purpura. HSP is a disease where small blood vessels become inflamed, irritated and swollen, producing a rash on the skin called “purpura”.

The cause of HSP

We do not know exactly what causes HSP, but it seems to follow on from some viral or bacterial infections such as a cold or respiratory tract infection. HSP can also be triggered by insect bites, vaccinations or even cold weather. Henoch-Schonlein Purpura is not a contagious condition.

THE SIGNS OF HSP

Rash

The HSP rash looks like purple-red bruises which does not turn white when pressed.

The rash is usually over the lower limbs and buttocks but may involve arms and face.

Tummy pain

Tummy aches and pains which can be severe and occasionally result in blood in the poop.

Joints

Painful and swollen joints can occur due to inflammation, usually affecting the knees and ankles.

Swelling

Orchitis and/or swelling of the genitalia is relatively common in boys.

Urine

Protein and blood may be found in the urine due to inflammation, in the kidneys.

Diagnosis

HSP is diagnosed from your child’s history of symptoms and their physical examination. A bloods test is carried out and a urine test is also necessary.

Treatment

There is no significant treatment for HSP. Rest and pain relief is advised for your child’s recovery. Overall, HSP does not cause long-term problems and most children make a full recovery, although relapses (usually milder than the first attack) can occur in about half of the children.

