

THRUSH

WHAT IS THRUSH?

- Thrush is a fungus (yeast) infection inside the mouth
- It may occur in young infants who get it from the mother's birth canal. Older babies and children may get it after they have taken antibiotics.
- White patches are seen on the tongue, gums, and inside the cheeks. These patches cannot be easily wiped away, like milk stains can.
- If your baby also has a diaper rash, it is probably also caused by a yeast infection

HOW TO TREAT YOUR CHILD'S THRUSH:

- A medicine has been prescribed. Put 1 ml (one dropperful) into each side of the mouth 4 times a day. Put the medicine slowly into the front of the cheek (it doesn't work once it is swallowed). You can rub it directly on lips and gums with a cotton swab.
 - Do not feed the baby for at least 30 minutes after giving the medicine
 - Use the medicine until the thrush is gone, and for an extra 2-3 days
 - If you are breast-feeding, apply the medication to irritated areas on your nipples.
- Soak bottle nipples, pacifiers, etc. in hot tap water to clean. Wash your breasts well if you are breast-feeding. Do not let infants share nipples, pacifiers, etc.
- Offer fluids frequently. If sucking and eating are painful for your child, attempt to feed him/her with a spoon or a cup.
- If diaper rash is also present, a prescription cream is needed.

CALL YOUR DOCTOR OR RETURN TO THE EMERGENCY DEPT:

- If your baby refuses to eat
- If the thrush gets worse even with treatment, or lasts more than 7 days with treatment
- If a diaper rash develops