



FLEA BORNE SPOTTED FEVER

WHAT IS IT?

- Sickness caused by a bacteria found in fleas and flea poop.
- People can be exposed to infected fleas from their pets, from pests (rats or mice) in the house, or from wild animals living nearby.
- People usually become sick 1-2 weeks after being exposed.
- This sickness is more common in people on the East Coast of Australia and those living in remote communities.



SIGNS & SYMPTOMS



FEVER



HEADACHE



**MUSCLE
ACHES**



**NAUSEA OR
VOMITING**



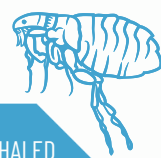
**STOMACH
ACHE**



RASH

TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR IF YOU NOTICE THESE SYMPTOMS AFTER BEING IN CONTACT WITH FLEAS, OR HANDLING WILD OR STRAY ANIMALS

HOW DO PEOPLE GET SICK?



RISK FACTORS

- Pets (cats and dogs) can bring fleas inside the home.
- Cats can spread the sickness to native animals; native animals can also spread it back to cats.
- People in remote communities are more likely to have contact with native animals.
- People in remote communities have less access to medical and veterinary health services.

PREVENTION

- Keep your pets up to date with medicine to prevent fleas and other parasites.
- Keep pests like rats and mice out of your home.
- Clean up rubbish around your home that may attract rats and mice.
- Avoid contact with stray or native animals.
- Always wear gloves when handling stray or native animals, especially if they look sick or have died.