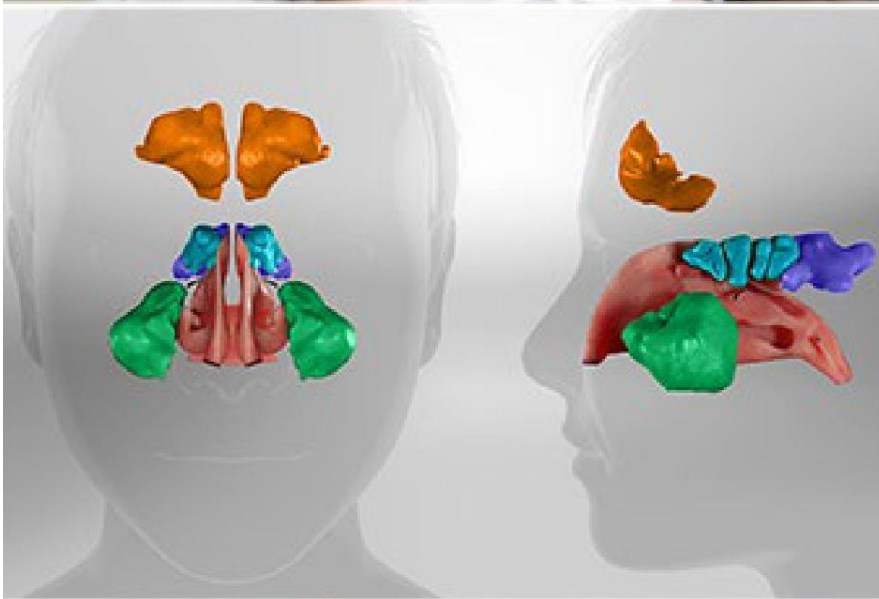




## Sinusitis (Sinus Infection) in Children



### Overview

This is an inflammation and swelling of your child's sinuses. What are sinuses? They're a system of spaces lined with mucous membranes. They drain into the nose's nasal passages. There are four types of sinuses, but they don't all develop at the same time. We're born with two, near the nose and cheeks. The other two form by the end of adolescence.

### Causes

What causes a sinus infection? It can be caused by a virus, bacteria or fungus. In some children, sinus infections are linked to allergies, which cause the mucous membranes to become inflamed. A sinus infection can be linked to a cleft palate or a tooth infection, or anything that blocks or irritates the nasal passages.

### Symptoms

What are the symptoms? In younger children, a sinus infection may cause a runny nose, a cough and swelling around the eyes. In older children, they may have these symptoms and others. They can have a fever, postnasal drip, bad breath, and a painful feeling in the face. You may think your child has a common cold.

### Treatment

Treatment options depend on the cause of your child's sinus infection. Your doctor will create a care plan that's right for you.