• Evidence of complications? e.g. Voice changes, drooling, stridor, torticollis, trismus, facial swelling below the mandible

Or

• Child appears severely unwell?

Consider potential airway threats:
- Epiglottitis or Bacterial tracheitis
- Retropharyngeal or lateral pharyngeal abscess
- Peritonsillar abscess
- Infectious mononucleosis (rarely causes airway obstruction)

Perform throat swab
Commence antibiotics to cover Group A streptococcus (GAS)
Cease antibiotics if culture negative

Significant Risk factors?
- Indigenous Australian/Maori/Pacific Islander
- Previous Acute rheumatic fever
- Immunosuppression

Perform throat swab
Commence Antibiotics to cover Group A streptococcus (GAS)
Cease antibiotics if culture negative

Patient requires hospitalisation?
- Dehydration
- Severe pain unresponsive to simple analgesia

Perform throat swab
Commence antibiotics to cover GAS
Cease antibiotics if culture negative
Symptomatic treatment

No

No antibiotics
Symptomatic treatment
Explain likely course of illness
Advise clinical review if symptoms worsen

Yes

ICU review
See Table

No

Yes

Analgesia