

Treatment

1. Take a bath. Following the bath apply the prescribed lotion exactly as directed from the neck down and leave it on for the prescribed number of hours. Be sure to cover all skin areas-in the belly button, under breasts, under the nails, between toes and fingers, bottom of feet, genitals, and all skin folds.
2. Wash all bed linens, sheets, towels, pajamas, nightgowns, and any recently worn clothing (mites can live 2-3 days off the body) in the washing machine on the HOT cycle.
3. After the prescribed amount of time, take another bath to wash the lotion off. Put on freshly laundered clothes.
4. Itching MAY continue for two weeks after treatment. Your doctor may prescribe an anti-itch medicine.
5. Families may be treated as a group.

Children are excluded from school until after treatment. Rash may persist for 1-2 weeks but persons are no longer considered contagious after treatment.



**SAGINAW COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**
protecting and promoting the public's health since 1928

Service Location
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SCABIES



Information
Brochure

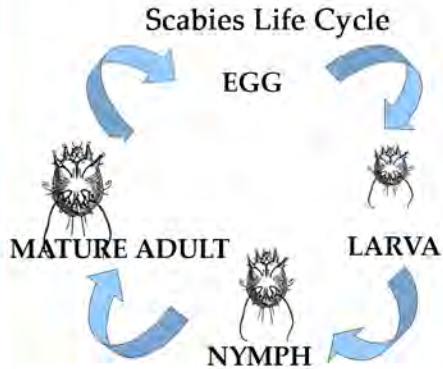


SCABIES

Scabies

A common and highly contagious skin disease caused by the "itch mite" an animal similar to spiders and ticks, but so tiny it can only be seen with a microscope.

Life Cycle - 10-14 Days



1. Eggs are laid in tunnels under skin. In 3-4 days eggs hatch into larvae.
2. Larva resembles adult, but much smaller with only six legs
3. In 3-4 days, larva becomes a nymph, looks like an adult with eight legs, but sexually immature.
4. Mature adult develops in 4-6 days. Adult female tunnels under skin to lay her eggs.

Mode of Spread

Close personal contact as in families, school age children, sexual contacts, chronically ill, those living in communal situations, skin-to-skin contact such as shaking hands, dancing, and contact sports. Indirectly by contact with contaminated underwear, sleepwear, and sheets.

SCABIES IS CONTAGIOUS UNTIL ALL MITES AND EGGS ARE DESTROYED BY TREATMENT.

Scabies mites can't fly, they can't jump, BUT they can crawl one inch per minute!

Incubation

The incubation period is 2-6 weeks before itching begins in persons who have never had scabies before. Itching begins in 1-4 days in people who have been previously infested.

Symptoms

1. Intense itching especially at night.
2. Itching starts gradually. Often those with scabies cannot identify when it started or who they got it from.



3. Rash begins as tiny bumps (very itchy) where the mite enters the skin. Then a small line appears where the mite enters the skin. Very small water-filled bumps may appear. Scaling, crusting, and bleeding of the skin often occurs.

4. The areas of the body most commonly effected are: Hands and feet, webs between fingers and toes, behind, the knees, inner side of wrists, bend of elbow, breasts, waist, genitals, and buttocks.

SCABIES CAN LIVE FOR 2-3 DAYS OFF THE HUMAN BODY.