

Scabies

SYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS/RESIDENTS/CLIENTS— TREATMENT

Staff, using contact precautions and working in teams will:

- Don appropriate PPE
- Bathe the patient/resident/client with scabies treatment and dry patients/residents/clients
 - Follow-up baths to remove medication are done at either 8 or 12 hours after treatment
- Examine the scalp for crusted lesions in confirmed cases
- Apply medication as ordered and according to the drug information insert
- Clean and change all linen on the patient
- clothing is bagged

ASYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS/RESIDENTS/CLIENTS— PROPHYLAXIS

Prophylaxis of asymptomatic patients/residents/clients is limited to the involved unit. These patients/residents/clients receive one application of medication and follow-up bath. Linens and clothing are changed per routine.

SYMPTOMATIC STAFF—TREATMENT

- Every employee case must be reported to OH&S, who can facilitate dermatology consultation and staff case management
- Staff and students who have worked on this unit over the previous 6 weeks must be contacted and assessed
- Staff diagnosed with scabies are relieved of direct patient contact until 24 hours after initiation of treatment
- Household, sexual and other close contacts (skin to skin contact or sharing clothes or bed linens) of a staff case should receive treatment (if symptomatic) or prophylaxis during the same 24-hour period as the staff treatment
- Pet prophylaxis is not required, as animal scabies is a different species

Scabies

ENVIRONMENT

- Special attention should be paid to the items with which infested patients/residents/clients have had direct skin contact in the previous four days
- All linen, towels and clothing used in the previous 4 days should be washed in hot water (60°C) and heat dried
- Items that cannot be washed in hot water should be stored in a plastic bag for at least 7 days before washing and reusing
- There is no need for special treatment of furniture, mattresses or rugs. General cleaning and thorough vacuuming is recommended

ASYMPTOMATIC STAFF, VOLUNTEERS AND PHYSICIANS—PROPHYLAXIS

- For staff – apply the medication, and then bath or shower at either 8 or 12 hours, dependent on the treatment used later as per the medication package information insert
- For volunteers/physicians, need for prophylaxis treatment is determined on the amount of direct contact that the person has with the patient and environment
- No special handling of clothing or linens is needed
- Family members of asymptomatic staff do not require prophylaxis