



Lake Oswego School District 7J
Special Services
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Scabies

What is Scabies?

Scabies is an infestation of the skin by very small insects called mites.



What are the Signs or Symptoms?

- Rash, severe itching (increased at night).
- Itchy red bumps or blisters found on skinfolds between the fingers, toes, wrists, elbows, armpits, waistline, thighs, genital areas, abdomen, and lower buttocks.
- Children younger than 2 years are likely to be infested on the head, neck, palms, and soles of feet; or all over the body.

What are the incubation and contagious periods?

- Incubation period: 4 to 6 weeks for those who have never been infected. 1 to 4 days for those who have been previously infected.
- Contagious period: Until treated.

How is it spread?

- Prolonged and close person-to-person contact.

How do you control it?

- Treatment by a healthcare provider. The treatment kills the mites, but their bodies are still in the skin, so the itch persists for about two weeks. Scabies treatment is recommended for members of the same household, particularly for those who have had prolonged skin-to-skin contact.
- Wash and dry (hot water and hot drying cycle) bedding and clothing that has been worn next to the skin during the 3 days before the start of treatment. Dry cleaning may also be used.
- Items that cannot be washed should be placed in plastic bags for at least 4 days. Scabies mites generally do not survive more than 2-3 days away from human skin.
- Careful and frequent handwashing (wash with soap and warm water for 20 seconds).
- Do not share personal items, such as clothing and bedding.

Exclusion from school?

Restriction: Student may attend school with licensed healthcare provider/school nurse permission. Student must also meet ODE exclusion criteria, such as: the student must be able to participate in usual school activities, and the care of the student must not be greater than the school can safely provide.

Information from the American Academy of Pediatrics, CDC, and ODE Communicable Disease Guidance.