

7

## Treatment

Scabies treatment involves eliminating the infestation with medications. Several creams and lotions are available with a doctor's prescription. An excellent example includes Permethrin, which is available in the form of topical cream with a concentration of 5% for the affected patients and 1% for prevention. It is preferred that patient takes a hot water bath and wash the body with soap and dry it before using the treatment. Apply the medication on the whole body including non-infected areas and leave the medication on for at least eight hours. Because scabies spreads so easily, your doctor will likely recommend treatment for all household members and other close contacts, even if they show no signs of scabies infestation.



8

## References

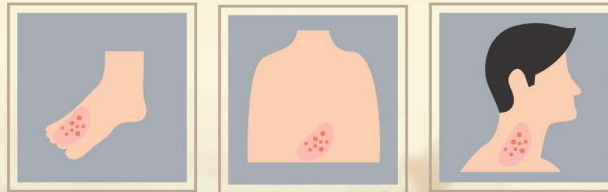
- Centres for Disease Control and Prevention in the United States of America (CDC)
- British Health Protection Agency (HPA)
- Mayo Clinic
- The National Health Service of the United Kingdom (NHS)
- Australian Government Health Information Service website (health.vic)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

6

## Diagnosis



The diagnosis of scabies is initially done by examining the skin of the patient and making sure that the skin rash and burrows formed in the skin appear in the usual places of appearance. It is possible to confirm the presence of scabies by microscopic examination of the site of infection after taking a sample of small burrows forming on the skin.



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## What Do You Know about Scabies?



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## 1 Definition of Disease



Scabies is a contagious disease caused by the female mite *Sarcoptes Scabiae* and appears as skin burrows. Symptoms appear in the form of severe skin itching in certain body parts. In some places of the body, a severe itching occurs as moths are laid under the skin due to the presence of mite eggs in the burrows.

## 2 High Risk Population

Scabies are found all over the world. The infection affects children and adults from different races and social classes without exception. Crowded places such as health care facilities, nurseries and prisons contribute to the widespread on the infection.

## 3 Methods of Transmission

Scabies live in human's skin only. The infection transfers from the infected person to others by:

- Prolonged skin contact with scabies.
- Use scabies clothing.
- Use brushes with scabies.

## 4 Symptoms


- The symptoms begin with a form itching that becomes more severe at night, especially the severity of the itching increases with the length of the disease.
- Small red granules can appear in distinctive areas, namely the abdomen (around the navel and sides), between fingers, in armpits, along the insides of wrists, thighs and around genital areas. The severity of itching and neglect of treatment may lead to complications such as bacterial infections.




## 5 Crusted Scabies (Norwegian)


- Crusted scabies is a severe form of scabies that usually affects older people, those who are immunocompromised and those who cannot rub their skin because of paralysis or lack of sensation.
- Crusted scabies characterized by the presence of thick layer of crusts on the skin, which contains a large number of mites (about 2 million) and therefore it is very contagious.
- Itching may not be present in this type of scabies due to changes of the immune status of the infected person.


## 4 General Preventive Measures

 Scabies is prevented by avoiding direct skin-to-skin contact with the infested person or with items such as clothing or bedding used by an infested person. Scabies treatment is usually recommended for members of the same household, particularly for those who have had prolonged skin-to-skin contact.

 All household members and other potentially exposed persons should be treated at the same time as the infested person to prevent possible re-exposure and reinfestation.

 Bedding and clothing worn or used next to the skin anytime during the 3 days before treatment should be machine washed and dried using the hot water and hot dryer cycles or be dry-cleaned.

 Items that cannot be dry-cleaned or laundered can be disinfested by storing in closed plastic bags for several days to a week.

 Persons with crusted scabies and their close contacts, including household members, should be treated rapidly and aggressively to avoid outbreaks. Institutional outbreaks can be difficult to control and require a rapid, aggressive, and sustained response. Environmental disinfestation using pesticide sprays or fogs generally is unnecessary and is discouraged.

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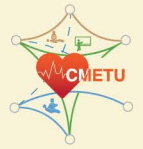
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## Treatment Guideline



## 1

## Treatment



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## 2

## When using permethrin, consider the following

- Use it at bedtime and before sleeping, leave the treatment for 8-14 hours.
- Cut nails and apply treatment under the nails' edges.
- For nursing women, remove the treatment from the nipple before feeding the child.
- It is necessary to treat all members who are in direct contact with patient.
- The use of Ivermectin treatment (as directed by the physician).
- Wash patients' clothes and beddings that been used within a week before the treatment using hot water with a temperature of 60 degrees Celsius.
- Patients should be encouraged to bath and use antiseptics.

## 3

## Home Care During Treatment



The severe itching of the disease may continue after the use of the treatment. Therefore, following these steps may reduce itching.

**Cool the skin:**

Immerse the body in cold water or use cold packs on inflamed areas to relieve itching.

**Use soothing creams:**

Use the over-the-counter calamine solution that can overcome the pain associated with itching and dermatitis.

**Use Antihistamines:**

As recommended by the doctor. Some antihistamines medications can be used without prescription to alleviate the symptoms of skin allergies associated with scabies.