

Cellulitis

Information for Parents and Caregivers

What is Cellulitis?

Cellulitis is a bacterial infection of the skin. Cellulitis can sometimes occur following trauma to the skin, even a simple bug bite or cut that the patient scratches that then gets infected.

Symptoms of Cellulitis

- Skin looks red and will usually be warm to the touch
- If the area of redness is expanding the child needs medical attention

Is Cellulitis Contagious? What is its Duration?

Cellulitis is not contagious and can not generally be transmitted from person to person.

Treatment & Symptom Management

Dependent on the location and area of cellulitis, a sick child will either receive oral or IV antibiotics.

Prevention

Prevention includes good skin washing and avoiding touching/picking at areas helps decrease chances of infection.

When Can a Sick Child Return to Day Care, School, and other Social Settings?

A sick child should be excluded from social settings until they are able to participate in normal activities.



ALABAMA REGIONAL CENTER FOR INFECTION PREVENTION
AND CONTROL TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Cellulitis: All You Need to Know, [https://www.cdc.gov/groupastrep/diseases-public/Cellulitis.html#:~:text=group%20A%20strep\),.How%20you%20get%20cellulitis,else%3B%20it%20is%20not%20contagious.](https://www.cdc.gov/groupastrep/diseases-public/Cellulitis.html#:~:text=group%20A%20strep),.How%20you%20get%20cellulitis,else%3B%20it%20is%20not%20contagious.)

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