

### Information for Parents and Caregivers

#### What is Scabies?

Scabies is caused by mites burrowing under the skin.

#### Symptoms of Scabies

- Itchy skin
- Bumps on their arms and legs and on the skin between fingers and toes. Bumps can sometimes appear strung together or appear in a row.

#### Is Scabies Contagious? What is its Duration?

Scabies is contagious and typically spread by prolonged, direct, skin-to-skin contact with an infected person. Scabies is sometimes spread indirectly by sharing clothing, towels, or bedding with an infected person. If itching continues 2-4 weeks after treatment, another treatment may be necessary.

#### Treatment & Symptom Management

Treatment involves using a topical prescription lotion applied over the entire body from neck to toes and left on overnight then showering off in morning. Reapplying the lotion a week later is often recommended. Be aware that the itching and bumps can persist for up to four weeks after treatment.

#### Prevention

Scabies can be prevented by avoiding direct contact with an infected person or items they have used.

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

A child with scabies should be excluded from social settings until the first prescribed treatment is complete.



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), Scabies, <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/scabies/index.html>