

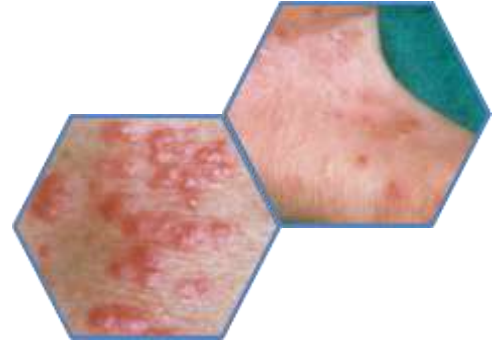
Prevention and Control Measures: Scabies

Transmission:

- Scabies are mites that can be spread from person to person (prolonged skin contact), surface to person (e.g., clothing, towels, furniture), or in crowded conditions, such as nursing homes and prisons, where body contact is frequent.

Symptoms:

- The most common scabies symptoms are itching and a pimple-like rash.
- Symptoms may not appear for up to 2 months after exposure.
- Often, very young children may see scabies on the face, head, neck, palms, and soles of their feet, which is less common in adults and older children.



Prevention and Control Measures:

- Practice proper [hand washing hygiene](#).
- Avoid direct skin contact with person suspected or confirmed to have had scabies for at least 8 hours after treatment.
- Linens, towels, and clothing used by those with scabies should be sealed in a plastic bag prior to leaving their room and washed in hot water and dried under high heat (122°F or above) for at least 10 mins.
- Bedding, rugs, and other furniture that can not be laundered or dry-cleaned should be sealed in a plastic bag or wrapped in plastic and removed from contact for 3-6 days.
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Additional Precautions for Congregative Living Facilities

- Immediately consult with physician or dermatologist about a definitive diagnosis of scabies and treatment options.
- Diagnosis of scabies can be made based on customary appearance and distribution of the rash and the presence of burrows or by obtaining skin scrapings from suspected persons.
- Once confirmed by physician or lab, begin treatment. If treated with scabicide lotion, include the entire body from the neck down, especially under well-trimmed fingernails. Keep the fingernails trimmed to prevent secondary skin infections.
- Notify the local health department of any scabies outbreak.
- Notify any institutions that may have recently treated persons or staff suspected or confirmed with scabies.
- Treat all suspected and confirmed cases of scabies and prophylactically treat staff, other patients, visitors, or family members who may have had skin-to-skin contact at the same time to prevent exposure.

For More Information: Visit [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) and type [Scabies](#) in the SEARCH box.



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