

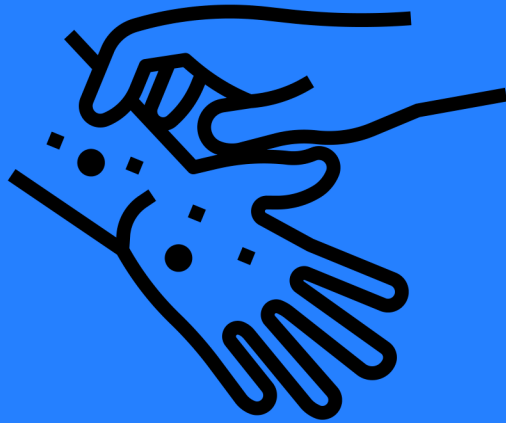
Exclusion From School

Child is excluded for 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has been started. The affected area should be covered while at school until sores are free of scabs, crusts or drainage.

If the area cannot be covered, or compromises the health and safety of others, the child may be excluded until the area is healed.

Precautions & Prevention of Spread

1. Early diagnosis and treatment are important
2. Avoid scratching
3. Keep fingernails short
4. If necessary, wear mittens to prevent injury from scratching
5. Do not share towels, bed linens or clothing
6. Wash towels, bed linen and clothing in hot water and dry in hot dryer
7. Toys should be washed in dishwashing detergent and rinsed in a water and bleach solution



Saginaw County
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1600 North Michigan Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48602

www.saginawpublichealth.org

The Saginaw County Health Department will not discriminate against any individual or group based on religion, race, color, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, marital status, or disability.

Rev. 10/2022

Impetigo



Information
Brochure

Impetigo

A common bacterial skin infection that can be caused by either Group Strep A or Staph. Impetigo can affect all age groups, but it is most common in infants and children.

Mode of Spread

Easily spread by fingers, towels, bedding, and clothing that has been in contact with the drainage from sores.

20-30% of the population are carriers of the impetigo germs in their nose and are capable of infecting themselves.

Impetigo germs can cause infection in healthy skin by entering through a break in the skin caused by an insect bite or injury

Incubation Period

Can be as short as a few days and as long as several weeks. It usually takes 4-10 days for impetigo to appear.

Symptoms

1. Starts out as small fluid filled blisters which appear in clusters on the skin.
2. The blister then fills with pus and is red around the bottom edge.
3. When the blister breaks, the fluid and pus inside dry to form hard, yellow-crusts sores. The scab is easily removed, leaving a smooth, red, weeping surface which becomes encrusted again.
4. The fluid and pus inside are very contagious. When they break and the fluid and pus come in contact with the skin, more lesions appear.
5. Lesions may be itchy.

Treatment

Impetigo is usually treated with a topical antibiotic ointment prescribed by the doctor. Impetigo may also be treated with over the counter Bacitracin or Neosporin ointment four times a day for minor infections.



1. Wash your hands before applying treatment.
2. Wash lesions with soap and water to remove crusts.
3. Pat dry
4. Apply antibacterial ointment
5. Put towel and washcloth in laundry. Use a clean towel and wash cloth for each treatment.
6. Wash your hands again to prevent spread of disease.