



Scabies

Scabies are microscopic mites that burrow in the skin resulting in an allergic reaction to the mite, which causes little red bumps and severe itching (especially at night). The mites usually burrow in skin folds such as under the arms and breasts, between the fingers, and in the genital area. Other common areas are at the waistline, on the wrist under the watchband area, and under the nails. It may take a month between the time that you are infested and start itching. Scabies is contagious and is spread by close personal contact (household members and children at school). Scabies is most commonly found in young children who have close personal contact at day care or school and in elderly nursing home patients.

TREATMENT: The patient, all household contacts, and other close contacts should be treated the same night.

- **Elimite is applied to dry skin from the neck down, to all areas including between the fingers and toes and between the skin folds.**
- The face usually does not need treatment and should be avoided.
- Elimite may burn or sting when applied
- The cream is left on overnight for 8 -12 hours
- A shower or bath is taken the next morning.
- All clothes and linens are then laundered in hot water and machined dried to kill mites
- Non-washable items such as stuffed animals should be placed in sealed plastic bags for 2 weeks to kill he mites
- It is not usually necessity to clean sweaters, jackets, furniture, drapes, or rugs.
- The patient should be re-treated tin the same manner one week later. Use ½ of the prescribed cream for the 1st treatment and the other ½ for the 2nd treatment.
- Family members who do not itch do not need a 2nd treatment.
- **Two treatments are enough; do not continue further treatments. This will only dry and irritate your skin and worsen itching.** Scabies mites are usually gone several days after the 1st application. You will then no longer be contagious.
- **The rash and itching may persist for up to 4 weeks after adequate treatment.**
- Pregnant omen should not use this medication.