

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TREATMENT AND REMOVAL OF HEAD LICE

TREATMENT OF HAIR

1. A special medicated shampoo must be used in the treatment of head lice. Medicated shampoo may be purchased at your local drugstore.
2. Follow the directions on the label carefully.
3. All household members must be examined at the same time.
4. Freshly laundered clothes, towels and combs/brushes must be available for use immediately after shampooing to prevent re-infestation.
5. A second application of the shampoo is recommended 10 days after the first treatment.

NIT REMOVAL

1. No preparation is effective in killing all the nits (eggs); therefore, all nits must be combed out of the hair.
2. Removal is best accomplished by combing the hair with a special fine-tooth nit comb, available at all drugstores.
3. After shampooing, comb hair to remove the tangles with a clean comb or brush.
4. Separate a one inch strand of hair and hold away from the head. Use the special nit comb to slowly and repeatedly comb the strand of hair from the scalp to the end of the hair removing all nits.
5. Dip the comb in the medicated shampoo and wipe clean with a tissue. Throw each tissue away in a garbage can.
6. Pin the cleaned section of hair out of the way. Start the next strand and continue combing strand by strand, until all nits have been removed.
7. If hair dries during this process, wet hair with water. It will take two to three hours of constant combing to remove all nits.
8. After hair is dry, check entire head for any stray nits.

TREATMENT OF HOUSEHOLD ENVIRONMENT

1. Combs and brushes should be either soaked in the shampoo used for treatment for 10 minutes, or in a 2% Lysol solution for one hour, or hot (140 degree F) water for 10 minutes
2. Washable bedding and clothing should be laundered in very hot water and dried 20 minutes or longer in a dryer at the highest temperature setting (140 degree F), or these items should be pressed with a hot iron. Be sure to include sheets, towels, hats, scarves, hair clips, ribbons, dresses, shirts, and anything that comes into contact with the hair.
3. Non-washable items such as pillows, blankets, jackets and stuffed animals should either be dry cleaned or sealed in plastic for 20 days, or placed in a dryer at the highest temperature setting (approx. 140 degrees F) for 20 minutes.
4. Upholstered furniture and mattresses should be thoroughly vacuumed. A warm iron should be run next to the cording on mattresses and cushions. (Check material for safe temperature.) Insecticide application to household objects is usually not necessary. However, special insecticides for use against head lice are available. Follow directions carefully. Do not use these insecticides on humans.

ADDITIONAL FACTS ABOUT HEAD LICE

1. Head lice are tiny blood sucking parasites which live on the scalp.
2. Head lice do not jump or fly. They are spread from one infected person to another by direct contact with the hair, or by shared personal items such as combs, brushes, hats, jackets, towels and bed linens.
3. Signs and Symptoms are:
 - Frequent scratching of the head, possibly with small sores or rash.
 - Tiny white oval shaped eggs (nits) attached to the hair near the scalp.