

Is there a vaccine for scabies?

No there is not a vaccine for scabies.

Is there a treatment for scabies?

- Yes, several lotions are available to treat scabies.
- Apply lotion to a clean body from the neck down to the toes and left overnight (8 hours).
- After 8 hours, take a bath or shower to wash off the lotion. Put on clean clothes.
- All clothes, bedding and towels used by the infested person 2 days before treatment should be washed in hot water; dry in a hot dryer.
- A second treatment of the body with the same lotion may be necessary 7-10 days later.

How soon after treatment will I feel better?

- Itching may continue for 2-3 weeks and does not mean that you are still infested.
- Your health care provider may prescribe additional medication to relieve itching if it is severe.
- No new burrows or rashes should appear 24-48 hours after effective treatment.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Local Resources

For information on Scabies visit our website at:
<http://www.tulsa-health.org/community-health/epidemiology/>
or write:
Tulsa Health Department
Planning & Epidemiology
5051 S. 129th E. Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74134
Other Contact Information:
Phone: 918/595-4505
Fax: 918/595-4588
E-mail: epidemiology@tulsa-health.org

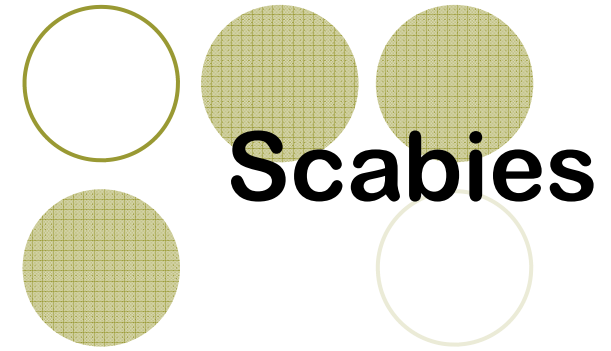
For more information on Scabies, visit:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
(888) 443-7232
www.cdc.gov
- World Health Organization
www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/diseases/scabies/en/

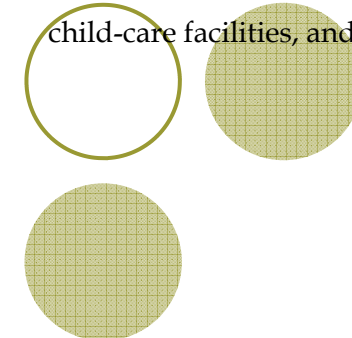


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Prepared by Planning & Epidemiology

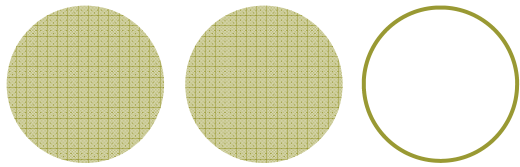


Scabies is an infestation of the skin with the microscopic mite *Sarcoptes scabiei*. Infestation is common, found worldwide, and affects people of all races and social classes. Scabies spreads rapidly under crowded conditions where there is frequent skin-to-skin contact between people, such as in hospitals, institutions, child-care facilities, and nursing homes.



TULSA HEALTH DEPARTMENT

HEALTHY CHOICES. HEALTHY PEOPLE. HEALTHY COMMUNITY.



Scabies

How do you get scabies?

- By direct, prolonged, skin-to-skin contact with a person already infested with scabies.
- Contact must be prolonged (a quick handshake or hug will usually not spread infestation).
- Infestation is easily spread to sexual partners and household members.
- Infestation may also occur by sharing clothing, towels, and bedding.

Who is more likely to get scabies?

People with weakened immune systems and the elderly are at risk for a more severe form of scabies, called Norwegian or crusted scabies.

Can I get scabies from my pet?

No. Pets become infested with a different kind of scabies mite. If your pet is infested with scabies, (also called mange) and they have close contact with you, the mite can get under your skin and cause itching and skin irritation. However, the mite dies in a couple of days and does not reproduce.

What are the symptoms of scabies?

- Pimple-like irritations, burrows or rash of the skin, more commonly found on:
 - * the webbing between the fingers,
 - * the skin folds on the wrist, elbow, or knee,;
 - * the penis,
 - * the breast,
 - * or shoulder blades.

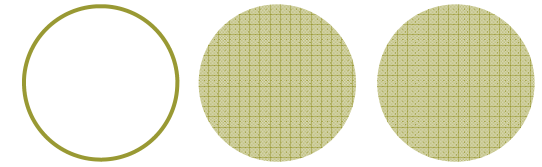


Scabies infestation on the hand.

- Intense itching, especially at night and over most of the body.
- Sores on the body caused by scratching. These sores sometimes become infected with bacteria.

How soon do symptoms appear?

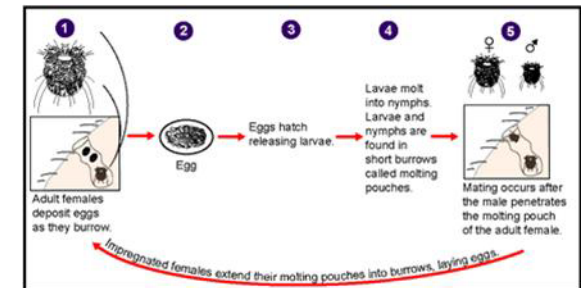
- For a person who has never been infested with scabies, symptoms may take 4-6 weeks to begin.
- For a person, who has had scabies, symptoms appear within several days.
- You do not become immune to an infestation.



What is the cause of scabies?

Scabies infestation is caused by the microscopic mite *Sarcoptes scabiei*. The fertilized female mite burrows into the skin, depositing eggs in the tunnel behind her. After the eggs are hatched, larvae migrate to the skin surface and eventually change into the adult form. Mating occurs when the skin surface. An adult mite can live up to about a month on a person. Once away from the human body mites only survive 48-72 hours. The characteristic itchy rash of scabies is an allergic response to the mite.

Lifecycle of the scabies mite.



The primary mode of transmission is person-to-person. Occasionally transmission may occur via fomites.

