

TREATMENT FOR HEAD LICE

If you have discovered signs or symptoms of head lice on your child, you may wish to consult with your family doctor and follow their treatment plan or the one below. **PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME UNTIL PROPERLY TREATED. A DISTRICT NURSE MUST APPROVE THEIR RETURN TO SCHOOL FOLLOWING TREATMENT.**

To treat:

1. Remove the child's clothing and wash in hot water and detergent.
2. Non-prescription shampoos such as Nix, Clear and Rid are available at most drug stores. Apply shampoo to **DRY** hair, following directions completely.
3. Using the nit removal comb, comb the hair carefully ½ inch at a time to remove the dead lice and eggs. Your child may not return to school while any nits remain. While the shampoo will kill the lice, it may not kill all the eggs. These shampoos attack the nervous system of the lice. New eggs or nits only a few days old do not have a nervous system. Thus, it is imperative that a second treatment be applied 6-7 days after the first.

Control measures for the environment:

1. Machine wash all washable clothing, bedding, etc. with hot water and detergent, allowing to dry in hot clothes dryer.
2. Dry clean all coats, scarves, hats, etc. that cannot be washed.
3. Blankets, pillows and stuffed animals can be put in the hot clothes dryer at least 20 minutes.
4. Run vacuum cleaner over floors and furniture thoroughly and dispose of bag when finished.
5. Disinfect combs, brushes and similar items by washing and rinsing in hot water.
6. Check all family members regularly and treat as needed.
7. Instruct children not to share hats, combs, scarves, etc. with other children.

If you have any questions, contact your family physician or school nurse.