










UPDATES ON MEDICATIONS FOR SCABIES AND HEAD LICE IN HOSPITAL USM

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Drugs	Indication		Safety for children	Safety for pregnancy and breastfeeding	Direction of use
	Scabies	Head lice			
 <p>Permethrin Lotion 5% [8]</p>	<p>[5]</p> 	<p>[5]</p> 	<p>2 months and above [5]</p>	<p>Safe to use [3]</p>	<p>Scabies [5]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After bathing and drying, apply a thin layer of lotion from the neck to the soles of the feet. • Leave on the skin for about 8-14 hours before washing off thoroughly. • Re-apply if the lotion on hands is washed with soap and water within 8 hours during the treatment period. - May repeat treatment at least 7 days after initial application.
<p>Benzyl Benzoate Emulsion 25% [8]</p>	<p>[2]</p> 	<p>[2]</p> 	<p>Avoid infants < 2 years [1]</p>	<p>Avoid in pregnant & breastfeeding women [1,5]</p>	<p>Scabies [2]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After bathing and drying, apply medicine thoroughly to cover the entire skin surface from the neck down, including the soles of your feet. • Allow the medicine to remain on the body for 24 hours. • Then, thoroughly wash the body with warm water and soap. • Rinse thoroughly and dry with a clean towel. - May be applied once daily at night on two consecutive days, with a repeat treatment cycle after 7 days [3,6] <p>Head lice [2]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After hair washing and drying, apply enough medicine to thoroughly wet the dry hair and skin or scalp and rub thoroughly. • Allow the medicine to remain on the affected areas for 24 hours. • After hair washing, rinsing and drying, use a fine-toothed comb (less than 0.3 mm between the teeth) to remove any remaining nits (eggs) or nit shells from hair, if fine hair, use a tweezer or fingernails to pick nits out. - In severe cases 2 or 3 treatments may be repeated after 7 and 14 days. [6] <p>Children 2-12 years old (scabies and head lice) Dilute the lotion with an equal quantity of water before application. [6]</p>
<p>Crotamiton Lotion 10% (1L) [8]</p>	<p>[7]</p> 	<p>[7]</p> 	<p>Children < 2 years [1]</p>	<p>Use with caution in pregnant and breastfeeding women [12]</p>	<p>Scabies [7]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash thoroughly and scrub away loose scales, then dry. • Apply thin layer and massage drug onto skin of entire body from neck to toes. • Repeat in 24 hours. • Bath 48 hours after final application to cleanse body. - May repeat treatment after 7-10 days if live mites are present.





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Gamma Benzene Hexachloride (GBH)/ Lindane (Benzene Hexachloride) Lotion 1% [8]	[12]	[12]	Contraindicated for premature infant and use with caution for children, infant and those weight <50kg [12]	Use with caution in pregnancy and avoid during breastfeeding [13]	<p>Scabies [12]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply a thin layer of lotion to skin at least 1 hour after bathing or showering and the skin should be completely dry before applying lotion. Apply uniformly and gently massage into all skin surfaces (entire trunk and extremities) from the neck to the toes (including the soles of the feet). Avoid face, eyes, mucous membranes, or urethral meatus. After 8–12 hours, completely wash lotion off the body using warm (not hot) water. Do not leave lotion on the skin for >12 hours. <p>- One treatment usually is successful. If symptoms persist, do not retreat with lindane because of concerns about neurotoxicity.</p> <p>Head Lice [15]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before using the GBH lotion, make sure hair is clean by using regular shampoo without conditioner and dry it. However, do not wash hair within 1 hour before using GBH lotion. Use 1 ounce (30ml) or not more than 2 ounces (60ml) of lotion on dry hair to wet the hair and scalp. Do not add water to the hair at this time. Also, put lotion on the short hairs at the back of neck and sideburns. Keep lotion on hair for 4 minutes. Do not wear a shower cap or any covering on head while waiting for the 4 minutes to pass. Rinse thoroughly with warm water and towel dry briskly. Remove the dead lice, nits and nit-shells using a fine-toothed comb

Warning!
Do not use oils on your skin or hair just before or after using Lindane Lotion. Oils include skin lotions and moisturizers, and oil-based hair products and conditioners. [12]

Scabies

Counselling points

Head Lice

- Avoid direct skin-to-skin contact with an infested person or with items such as clothing or bedding used by an infested person. [9]
- All household members and other potentially exposed persons should be treated at the same time as the infested person to prevent possible reexposure and reinfestation. [9]
- Bedding and clothing worn or used next to the skin anytime during the 3 days before treatment should be machine washed and dried using the hot water and hot dryer cycles or be dry-cleaned. [9]
- Patient should be made aware that itching may persist for up to 2-4 weeks after the end of appropriate treatment. [4]
- The patient should be thoroughly educated about the application of the treatment, and supplementation with written instructions may be helpful. [4]
- The nails should be cut short. [4]

- Check all household members and treat those with live lice or nits. Family members who share a bed with the patient should be treated. [14]
- Avoid head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact during play and other activities. [10]
- Do not share clothing such as hats, scarves, coats. [10]
- Do not to share personal items such as combs, brushes, and hats. [10]
- Wash clothing and bed linen at 54 °C and item that cannot be washed (e.g: furniture, car seat and carpets) should thoroughly vacuumed. [10]
- Do not lie on beds, couches, pillows, carpets, or stuffed animals that have recently been in contact with an infested person. [10]

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