

IC8: 02500 SCABIES Appendix V: Considerations Prior to Treatment

Prior to Scabies Treatment

The mite that causes scabies dies when away from the human body for more than two or three days: put most of your linens, towels and clothing away and do not touch them for 4 days. After that they will be safe to use and wear and they do not need to be re-laundered. It's impossible to launder every item in your entire house.

The treatment for scabies is very simple, but needs to be done properly in order to kill the mites. There are two steps you need to follow to rid yourself of scabies: treating yourself and dealing with your linens.

Step One: Treat Yourself

Apply treatment as per manufacturer's instructions

Apply the lotion in the evening.

Lotion needs to be applied everywhere on your body from the neck down. This includes under your fingernails, toenails, and every crease.

Do not put the lotion on your face.

The lotion will rub in and will not stay wet or sticky.

Follow directions for contact time

Step Two: Dealing with your Linens

Scabies can live off your body for 2-3 days in your linens and clothing. To be sure you are rid of the mites you must do the following:

1. Before you put on the lotion choose the clothing, towels, bed sheets you will need for the next 4 days.
2. Launder the clothing, towels, and bed sheets you have chosen and dry them in the dryer. Set these aside.
3. Close your closets, drawers, linen closet and do not open them for 4 days. This way if there are any scabies in your closet, drawers, or linen closet you can be sure they are dead. Only use the items you have laundered for 4 days.

Make sure you put on the clean bed sheets after you shower off the lotion.

If these measures don't start working in a few days, contact your own doctor

Remember: scabies is a simple infection and has nothing to do with your standard of hygiene