

Scabies treatment

Care Home and Domiciliary Carers instructions for application of cream or lotion (for external use only)

- **Do not bathe or shower the service user immediately before putting on the cream or lotion.**
 - **Make sure there are 4-6 tubes for two treatment applications before starting the treatment.**
 - **The treatments should be applied one week apart.**
 - **Use clean bed linen on day of treatment.**
1. Application of the cream or lotion is best done in the evening onto clean, cool, dry skin.
 2. Wash hands and apply apron and gloves.
 3. Remove all service user's clothing and jewellery. If it is not possible to remove a ring during application of treatment, move it to one side, then treat the skin surface that is normally underneath the ring. Wait for the skin to dry before returning the ring to its normal position.
 4. The cream or lotion needs to be applied to the whole body (apply externally all over the body on the skin of the face, scalp, and down to the soles of the feet), avoiding the eyes, nose and mouth.
 5. Squeeze the cream into the middle of the gloved hand or tips of fingers. If a lotion has been prescribed, it can be poured into a bowl and a disposable sponge or disposable cloth used to apply it. The sponge or cloth should be disposed of after completion of the treatment.
 6. Apply to the skin.
 7. Take special care to get it into all the external skin creases of the body, e.g. under breasts, the nipples, genitals and between the buttocks (bottom). Particular attention needs to be paid to the skin between the fingers and toes, under the nails and behind the ears.
 8. Let the cream or lotion dry before dressing the service user in clean clothes as it may rub off. This takes 10–15 minutes.
 9. Apply to the soles of the feet last after the body treatment has dried. This is best done with feet resting on top of or dangling over the side of the bed.
 10. Leave the cream or lotion on for 8-12 hours (overnight treatment will help to ensure this).
 11. Do not bathe or shower the service user during the recommended treatment time.
 12. Apply more cream or lotion on any area of the body, e.g. hands, genitals that are washed during the treatment period.
 13. Remove gloves and apron, then wash hands.
 14. Document treatment in the service user's record.