

MOLLUSCUM CONTAGIOSUM

Key Features of Molluscum Contagiosum

- Molluscum contagiosum is a contagious skin virus
- Incubation period minimum 2-8 weeks
- Raised smooth bumps with a white dimple when developed
- Bumps start pin sized, grow to 1-4 mm over several weeks
- Usually clusters of 2-10; extensive infections 20-50+ bumps
- Average resolution 12 months & in 13% of cases more than 24 mths
- Bumps may be inflamed and/or surrounded by eczema
- Not generally itchy or painful; itchiness may be associated eczema
- People pre-disposed to eczema have more molluscum for longer
- Molluscum transmitted to other children in 40% of families



Typical molluscum bumps

Children & Molluscum

- Usually found on the torso, thighs and face
- Scratching bumps spreads infection
- Children do not need to be excluded if precautions taken

Molluscum in Adults

- Usually found around the genitals if caught as an STD
- Parents & carers often get molluscum on face and scalp



Cluster of inflamed molluscum

How is Molluscum Spread?

- Direct skin to skin contact
- Hands and fingernails
- Towels, face cloths, soap bars, clothes, toys, baths, pools

Stopping the Spread - Precautions

- Cover molluscum bumps with clothing or Band-aids/Elastoplast
- Don't share towels, toys, clothes, etc with infected person
- Wash hands frequently; wash towels, clothes, toys often
- Use liquid soap, not soap bars
- Don't share baths; shower if possible
- Avoid skin to skin contact with infected areas



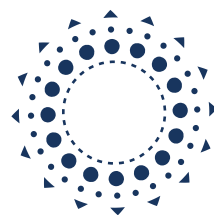
Eczema associated with molluscum

TREATMENT OPTIONS

- **Do nothing:** runs risk of spreading infection over the body and to family & friends.
- **Cryotherapy:** freezing molluscum bumps.
- **Surgical scraping:** with a curette or scalpel.
- **Laser:** pulsed dye laser.

Above medical procedures treat each individual bump.

- **Topical Lotions & Ointments:** Allow more bumps to be treated at the same time.
- **Mollenol Sensitive** ointment for children 4 years & under and **Mollenol** for older children and adults.



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For the treatment of molluscum contagiosum.

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