

## General Commissioning Policy

<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Scabies</b>
<b>For the treatment of</b>	<b>Scabies</b>
<b>Background</b>	<p>NHS Scarborough and Ryedale CCG (SRCCG) commissions' healthcare on behalf of its local population across primary, secondary and tertiary care sectors. Commissioning policy including clinical referral pathways and thresholds have been developed and defined using appropriate NICE guidance and other peer reviewed evidence and are summarised here in order to guide and inform referrers</p> <p>This policy defines the SRCCG commissioning position for Scabies.</p>
<b>Definition</b>	<p>Scabies is an itchy rash caused by the mite <i>Sarcoptes Scabiei</i> which is nearly always spread by skin to skin contact. There are intensely itchy red papules and burrows may be seen on fingers, wrists, ankles and feet. It affects the entire skin but the face and scalp are usually only involved in infants and bed bound elderly patients</p> <p><b>Exclude Red Flag symptoms</b> Consider crusted (Norwegian) scabies in patients with dementia, neurological disease or immunosuppression.</p>
<b>Management</b>	<p><b>Topical insecticides</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As per local antimicrobial guidance</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> line - apply 5% permethrin dermal cream. Repeat application after 7 days. Current guidance is to treat the whole body, including the scalp and face in all patients, a larger quantity of treatment will be needed to ensure this is possible (average sized adult will require a total of 3 x 30g tubes to cover 2 applications)</li> <li>• Alternative – Malathion 0.5% aqueous liquid. Repeat application after 7 days</li> <li>• Treat all household members and any other significant contacts e.g. childcare, boyfriend, girlfriend etc.</li> <li>• Repeat treatment after 7 days</li> <li>• Clothes, towels and bedding should be washed after first application</li> <li>• Failure of treatment is usually due to non-adherence to instructions for using insecticide or failure to treat a contact</li> </ul>

Responsible GP – Dr Peter Billingsley, SRCCG	Approved: April 2017
Responsible Consultant – Ms Kathryn Thomson, YTHFT	Date published: April 2017
Responsible Pharmacist – Ms Rachel Ainger, SRCCG Medicines Mngt	NHS Scarborough & Ryedale Clinical Commissioning Group

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remember contacts may be infected but remain asymptomatic for weeks</li> <li>The itch of scabies may persist for at least a month after eradication of the mite. Treatment with crotamiton 10% cream or lotion helps to relieve the itch and is also a mild insecticide.</li> </ul>
<b>Referral criteria</b>	<p><b>Refer to Dermatology if:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diagnostic uncertainty</li> </ul> <p><b>Discuss with Dermatology if:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crusted scabies</li> <li>An outbreak in nursing or care home</li> </ul>
<b>Information to include in referral letter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How long the rash has been present</li> <li>Treatments that have been tried</li> <li>Relevant past medical / surgical history</li> <li>Current regular medication</li> <li>BMI/Smoking status</li> </ul> <p><b>Investigations prior to referral</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None needed</li> </ul>
<b>Patient Information Leaflets</b>	<p>The British Association of Dermatologists has a patient information leaflet about scabies.  <a href="http://www.bad.org.uk/site/871/default.aspx">http://www.bad.org.uk/site/871/default.aspx</a></p> <p>There is a similar one on patient.co.uk  <a href="http://www.patient.co.uk/health/scabies">http://www.patient.co.uk/health/scabies</a></p>
<b>Effective from</b>	November 2014
<b>Reviewed</b>	March 2017
<b>Review Date</b>	2019
<b>Contact for this policy</b>	Service Improvement Team <a href="mailto:scrccg.rssifr@nhs.net">scrccg.rssifr@nhs.net</a>

**References:**

Clear information about scabies and how to treat on the Primary Care Dermatology website.

<http://www.pcds.org.uk/clinical-guidance/scabies>

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