

Instructions for Ringworm

Ringworm is a type of yeast infection (not a worm) It is usually not a serious infection, but it will spread if it is not treated.

Ringworm of the skin is not very contagious. Your child can return to school or day care right after starting treatment.

- o To treat your child's skin ringworm, apply Lotrimin twice a day to the rash and one inch beyond its borders. Continue treatment for one week after the patch is smooth. This will probably take about 8 weeks.

Ringworm in the hair can cause hair loss and scaling of the scalp. Combs, brushes, barber equipment, hats, barrettes, pillows and bath towels can spread this infection. Without treatment the infection can spread to other parts of the scalp. Some children develop a sore swelling of the scalp that can drain pus and need extra treatment. It may take 6-12 months for the hair to grow back.

- o To treat your child's hair ringworm, give griseofulvin once a day with fatty foods for 8 weeks. This is a prescription medication.
- o Use Selenium Sulfide shampoo 3 times a week for 3 weeks. Leave the shampoo on for 5 minutes before rinsing. On other days, use a regular shampoo.
- o Do not use hair grease for 8 weeks.
- o Do not share hats, combs, brushes, towels or pillows.
- o Boil combs and brushes, once a week; replace when treatment is over

Call the doctor if:

- * the scalp becomes swollen or sore, or if there is pus.
- * the ringworm continues to spread after 2 weeks of treatment.
- * the ringworm is not completely gone when you are almost out of medication.
