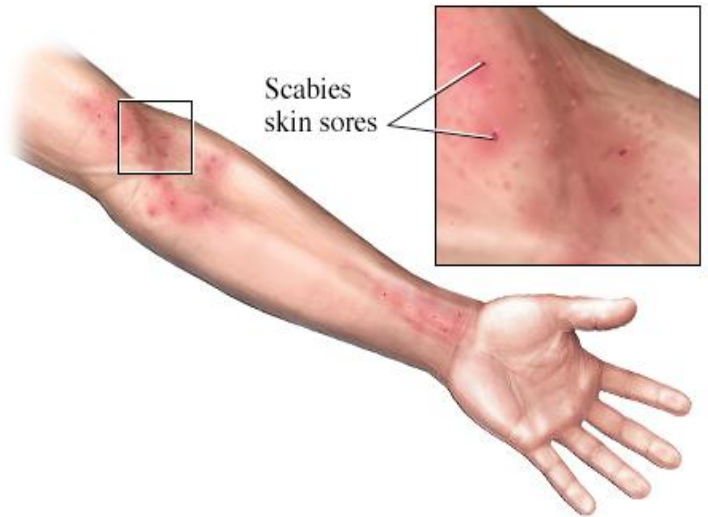
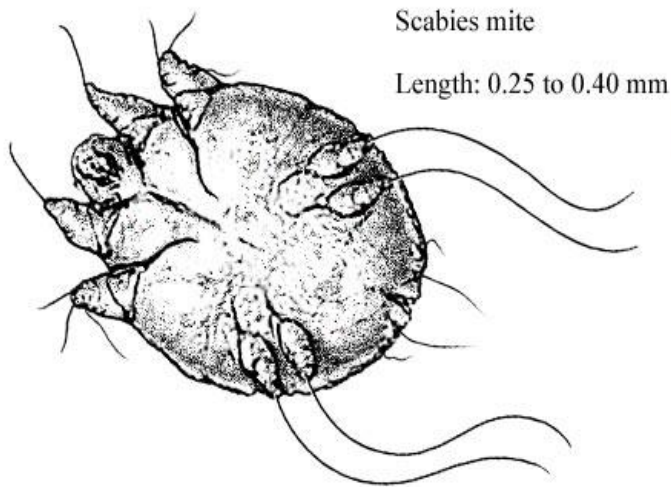


Informational Handout on Scabies



OVERVIEW: Scabies is caused by the microscopic human itch mite. The mite burrows itself under the upper layer of skin, lays its eggs and lives there.

SIGNS/SYMPTOMS: Intense itching (especially at night) and a pimple like rash commonly in sites such as the elbow, armpit, between the fingers, nipple area, belt – line, and buttocks. The rash may also contain tiny blisters and scales. The area may become infected by transfer of bacteria from scratching at the site. A person may not have symptoms for up to two months after being infested.

HOW TRANSMITTED: Scabies is transmitted through prolonged skin-to-skin contact with an infested person. It is easily spread between sexual partners and household members.

Nursing homes, extended-care facilities, prisons, and child care facilities are common sites for infestation. Scabies can affect all races and socioeconomic classes.

HOW DIAGNOSED: Scabies is diagnosed by a health care provider. They will examine the rash for the presence of burrows and mite fecal matter. The physician may collect a skin sample in order to determine under a microscope if mites are present.

PREVENTION MEASURES: Do not share items such as clothing, towels, or bedding used by an infested person.

TREATMENT: If scabies infestation is suspected, see your health care provider. There are no over the counter medications available for the treatment of scabies. A scabicide will be prescribed in a cream or lotion form. Only use scabicides that are intended for human use!

COMPLICATIONS: Re-infestation from a family member, other infested person, clothing, bedding or towels that were not appropriately washed/dry cleaned, or failure in treatment because of faulty application of medication.

BOTTOM LINE:

- *Scabies is caused by a microscopic human itch mite
- * Patients will experience a pimple like rash with intense itching
- *Scabies is caused by prolonged skin-to-skin contact and can be transmitted through family members or sexual partners.
- *Scabies is treated by a prescribed scabicide



Information taken from cdc.gov.

Photos taken from WebMD.com