

TREATMENT INFORMATION FOR HEAD LICE

Follow manufacturer's directions regarding the use of lice shampoo or contact your physician to discuss an appropriate treatment plan. Most lice treatments kill only live lice, not the nits. Therefore **it is necessary to repeat the treatment as directed** in order to catch any lice that may have hatched from nits that were missed when doing head checks.

- Head Lice do not fly and they do not jump. They crawl – fast.
- An adult louse may be as large as a sesame seed, but they may be smaller.
- Lice can be hard to detect. You are more likely to see their eggs (nits).
- When checking your child's head, use a good light, or place your child in front of a well-lit window.
- Prepare to spend as much time as necessary removing the nits. This process can take several hours and you may need to repeat the process over several days.
- Magnifying glasses can help in locating the nits.
- Nits are cemented to the hair shaft. They are light colored, and need to be pulled (gently) down the shaft. Lice combs can aid in this, but you will also need to be prepared to use your fingers.
- Check one small portion of hair at a time.
- Lice do not live long off the human head. However, it is a good idea to:
 - wash all of the child's bedding in hot water and dry at high heat. Wash and dry pillows or place in plastic bags for 7 days.
 - Put stuffed animals in dryer at high heat for 30 minutes or bag for 7 days.
 - Vacuum all carpets, sofas, chairs.
 - Replace or sterilize hair brushes, combs etc. in boiling water
 - Vacuum car upholstery
- Remember to check the head of EACH household member!
- CHECK the child's hair and scalp daily for at least 1 – 2 weeks. Afterwards, even when all lice and nits are gone, it is a good idea to check your child's hair weekly as a preventive measure.