

IMPETIGO

Facts and Prevention Tips for Schools and Childcare Centers

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Impetigo is a bacterial skin infection that can cause sores anywhere on the body.
- Impetigo is often caused by a bacteria group called group A Streptococcus, but can also be caused by Staphylococcus bacteria.
- Impetigo is most common in kids aged 2-5.



SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- Common symptoms of include red, itchy sores that break open and leak a clear fluid or pus.
- These sore are followed by a crusty yellow or “honey-colored scab” that forms over the sore.
- Sores are most commonly found on the face.



HOW IT SPREADS

- Impetigo can be spread by touching or having close contact with sores or fluid from sores.



WHEN TO RETURN

- Children and staff can return when antibiotic treatment is started as long as the sores are covered until dry, when possible.



PREVENTION

- Wash hands and laundry often.
- Clean and care for sores.
- Contact your local health department when there is increased illness.



CDC Impetigo
Page:



NJ Dept of Health
Exclusion List:



Find Your Local
Health Department:



If you notice an increase in impetigo, or other illness, reach out to your local health department.