

Students

Administrative Procedure - Measures to Control the Spread of Head Lice at School

Primary Prevention/ Education

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lice information included in kindergarten and early childhood registration packets annually. • Lice information included in elementary /principal newsletters • Health office web sites contain links to guide families to evidence based guidelines for the prevention, treatment, and elimination of head lice infestations. • Lice protocols printed in the student handbooks. • A head lice lesson is given For kindergarten and/or first grade-Classes. • Include “How to Check for Head Lice” with Environmental Education parent information.
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Secondary Prevention/Presence of lice:

Parent/Guardian Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report their child's suspect or confirmed case of head lice to the school nurse. • Treat the infestation (follow the checklist established). Call your physician for medication shampoo and guidance as needed. • Implement environmental measures such as laundering, vacuuming, and bagging. • Notify families of children who are identified as being close contacts. • Send student back to school after treatment. Ensure your child visits the nurse for a head check before school reentry and return the proof of treatment form established. • Monitor infestation daily and retreat in 7-10 days, as needed. • Educate and reinforce with the child, to avoid activities that may spread head lice. • Make head lice checks part of your child's regular hygiene routine throughout elementary school.
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Nursing Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm the head lice infestation; begin individual “Lice Log, and guide parents /guardians in the treatment and prevention of re-infestation of head lice. Maintain the privacy of students identified as having head lice. • Obtain list of close contacts from parent, student and staff.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen close contacts for head lice. • Allow child to return to school after satisfactory head check and review of treatment. • Rescreen student with confirmed case after treatment and intermittently until infestation clears. • Rescreen close contacts as needed. • Classroom letter to be distributed as needed. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Distribute the “Lice Notification Letter” at the preschool and elementary levels upon identification of a new case of head lice, due to the louse life cycle, no more than once every two weeks. b. Inform classroom teacher and provide them with a “Classroom Checklist”. <p>Tertiary Intervention/Persistent lice:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parent/Guardian Activities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If infestation continues after retreatment, inform the school nurse and contact child’s primary care provider for assistance with additional treatment options and product. b. Reassess household members for signs of infestation and re-alert close contacts. c. Repeat steps on the “Parent Checklist”, product directions, and home environmental measures. d. Continue to check and remove nits and lice until infestation has cleared. e. Incorporate routine head checks throughout your child’s elementary years. 2. Nursing Activities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recheck confirmed cases and close contacts at school. b. Follow established procedures as indicated. c. Review “Classroom Checklist” with staff. Walk through classroom/cubby area to identify possible sources of transmission. d. When concurrent head lice infestations occur in a particular classroom or setting, an additional letter “Break the Lice Cycle” will be sent home and the entire class will be screened for head lice within five school days.
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