






Scabies

Also called: sarcoptic mange

A contagious, intensely itchy skin condition caused by a tiny, burrowing mite.

Common

More than 1 million cases per year (India)

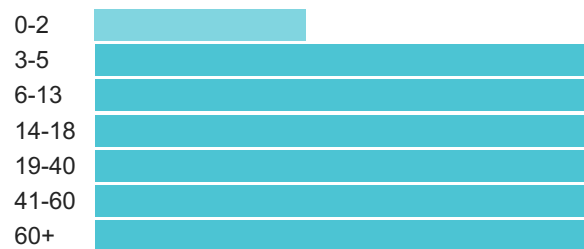
-  Treatable by a medical professional
-  Usually self-diagnosable
-  Lab tests or imaging rarely required
-  Spreads by skin-to-skin contact
-  Short-term: resolves within days to weeks

Scabies is contagious and spreads quickly through close physical contact in a family, school or nursing home.

The most common symptom of scabies is intense itching in the area where the mites burrow.

Scabies can be treated by killing the mites and their eggs with medication that's applied from the neck down and left on for eight hours. The mites can also be killed using oral medication.

Ages affected



How it spreads

By skin-to-skin contact (handshakes or hugs).

Symptoms

Usually self-diagnosable

The most common symptom of scabies is intense itching in the area where the mites burrow.

People may experience:

Skin: bumps or redness

Also common: itching

Consult a doctor for medical advice

Note: The information you see describes what usually happens with a medical condition, but doesn't apply to everyone. This information isn't medical advice, so make sure that you contact a health care provider if you have a medical problem. If you think you may have a medical emergency, call your doctor or a emergency number immediately.

Sources: Apollo Hospitals and others. [Learn more](#)