



What is impetigo?

- A highly contagious skin infection, caused by bacteria (staph or strep)

What are symptoms that could occur?

- Open sores draining pus-like fluid (leaving crusted yellow scabs) on exposed areas of the body, including face, hands, and legs

How is it spread?

- By direct contact with discharge from the lesions
- Contagious as long as the sores are draining
- No longer contagious after 24 – 48 hours of antibiotic treatment
- May spread beyond skin in unusual circumstances

How is it diagnosed and treated?

- Primary care provider evaluation
- Treatment is topical antibiotics and possibly band aid covering

How can it be prevented?

- Hand washing with soap and water
- Wash sores with soap and water
- Do not touch sores
- Cover affected area with dressing or bandage
- Do not share personal items
- Avoid non-chlorinated pools and hot tubs
- Avoid contact with people, animals, objects that may have been exposed

Should the sick individual be isolated?

- Yes. Wash affected area, cover sores, and exclude child at end of day and until treated

When can the individual return to the general population?

- After 24 hours on oral medication, antibiotic ointment with band-aid covering

Should facilities do special cleaning?

- Special cleaning is not necessary. Routine cleaning with EPA approved products is recommended

If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department at 257-1017