SCABIES

What is scabies?
Scabies is a skin infection caused by a very small mite.

How is scabies spread?
Scabies may be spread through the following ways:
- Direct contact with an infected person
- Less commonly by sharing clothing or bedding with an infected person

What are possible symptoms?
Symptoms may include:
- Itching, especially at night
- Rashes—the burrow looks like a pencil mark
- Abrasions from scratching and digging

How is scabies diagnosed?
A doctor can diagnose scabies by looking at the skin rash. Scrapings from the skin can also be examined under a microscope.

What is the treatment for scabies?
Prescription cream or lotion must be applied over the entire body. Household members may also need to be treated. Itching may continue for 2-3 weeks after treatment. This may be helped by cool baths or by using calamine lotion.

How can I prevent scabies?
Avoid contact with infected people.

For more information on (Enter Disease Name Here):
Ottawa County Health Department
www.miOttawa.org
Medline Plus/National Institutes of Health

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