

## CRAB LICE

Crab lice (pediculosis pubis) are small, light brown, flat insects.

Crabs cling to pubic hairs, suck blood for nourishment, and fix their eggs (nits) to pubic hair.

The blood sucking may cause small red sores and itching. Crab lice are nearly always spread by close physical contact. They prefer the pubic hair and do not voluntarily leave the body.

### Transmission

Crab lice are mainly transmitted by close body contact (including sexual activity).

### Treatment of crabs

- Bathe thoroughly and towel dry.
- Apply permethrin liquid ("Quellada creme rinse") over the entire skin area from chest to knees. The liquid should be applied to clean, cool, dry skin.
- Leave on for 20 minutes only. Bathe and dry.
- Comb pubic hair with a fine tooth comb to remove any eggs.
- Wash all clothing, bedding and towels used in the past two days. Dry cleaning can also be used.
- The itch may persist for a few days after successful treatment.
- Repeat treatment in 7-10 days.
- Sexual partners also require treatment.

## SCABIES

Scabies is an infestation of the skin by a small mite.

The mite makes a shallow burrow into the skin and lays eggs in this burrow. Two to four weeks after infection, red itching bumps or blisters occur. The bumps are an allergic reaction to the insects. New insects hatch from the eggs and can be spread to other areas of the skin by scratching.

Scabies infestation usually involves the genitalia, waist-line, hands and wrists. Scabies hardly ever involves the face or back.

### Transmission

Scabies are usually transmitted by close body contact (including sexual activity).

### Treatment of scabies

- Do not bathe immediately before treatment.
- Apply Permethrin cream ("Lyclear") to clean, cool dry skin.
- Apply a thin layer of the cream to your whole body surface from the neck down. Do not put it on the face. Leave the cream on for 24 hours then wash thoroughly.
- Ideally someone else should apply the cream so that the whole body surface is covered.
- Remember to treat palms of hands, soles of feet and in between fingers and toes. Re-apply cream to the hands if hands are washed within 8 hours of application.
- Wash or dry-clean clothing, bedding and towels used in the past two days.
- One repeat application of Lyclear can be made in 5-7 days. The itch may persist for a week or more after treatment.
- Sexual partners and all members of the household also require treatment.

# Crab Lice & Scabies

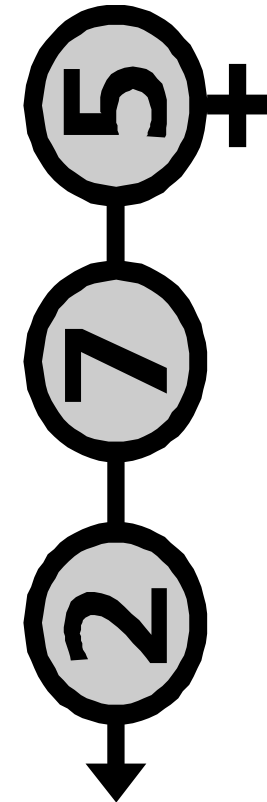
**Sexually Transmitted  
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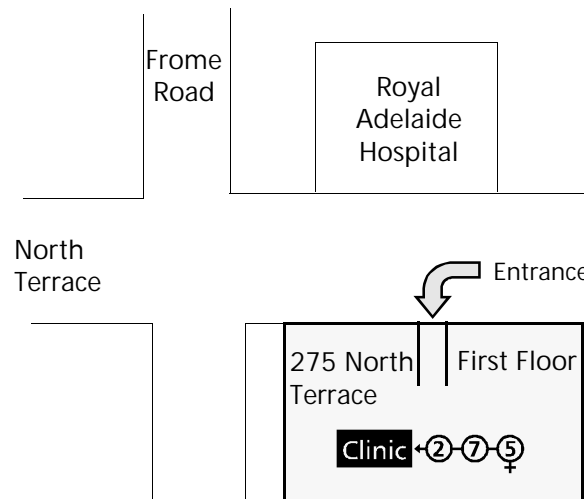
No appointment necessary

Monday, Thursday, Friday  
10.00 am - 4.30 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday  
11.00am - 6.30pm



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