

Impetigo

Impetigo is a common bacterial infection of the skin usually found around the nose, mouth, hands, and forearms. It can be itchy, cause children to scratch and spread the bacteria to other parts of the body.

Impetigo is very contagious and can be easily spread to other children.

There are the two types of impetigo, non-bullous impetigo (crusted) - the most common form – and bullous impetigo (large blisters).

Non-bullous begins as tiny blisters, which eventually burst and leave small wet patches of red skin that may weep fluid. Gradually, a tan or yellowish-brown crust covers the affected area, making it look like it has been coated with honey or brown sugar.

Bullous impetigo form larger fluid-containing blisters that first appear clear, then cloudy. These blisters are more likely to stay longer on the skin without bursting.



Treatment

You must see your Doctor if you feel your child has Impetigo, they will prescribe an anti-biotic and or creams depending on the severity and where it has spread.

Try to prevent your child from scratching the sores as much as possible. Cover sores with a watertight dressing to prevent the infected fluid and crusts from spreading.

Remember good hand washing is also key in preventing the infection spreading.