

10 WAYS TO STOP THE SPREAD OF SCABIES

- 1.** Isolate all suspected & confirmed scabies patients unless the entire population of the nursing unit, floor, or facility area has scabies.
- 2.** Be proactive! Convene an outbreak team to determine appropriate course of action.
- 3.** Conduct contact investigations to identify additional cases to limit the spread of scabies in your facility.
- 4.** Limit rotation of employees between nursing units unless all of the units have symptomatic patients.
- 5.** Assign multiple patient use items (e.g. blood pressure cuffs, transfer belts) to the symptomatic patient(s) or disinfect equipment before use with non-symptomatic patients.
- 6.** Treat all symptomatic staff, patients, & personal care workers with a scabicide within a 24-hour period once an outbreak has been determined.
- 7.** Change & launder all used patient linens before & after scabicide treatment has been completed.
- 8.** Seal non-washable items in a plastic bag & place in a hot dryer for 20 minutes or leave (in sealed bag) at room temperature for seven days. Furniture should be cleaned & disinfected before use.
- 9.** Monitor patients for symptom resolution weekly. Reconsider scabies diagnosis and/or treatment failure if symptom severity does not lessen after two weeks.
- 10.** Regularly conduct outbreak team meetings to identify & address continuing concerns.