



TREATING HEAD LICE



1. Treat the infested person(s): Use a special over-the counter (OTC) or prescription medication from the doctor. Check all family members for lice and treat all who have lice. Only use the medicated shampoo on the family member who has lice.

Do not use a combination shampoo/conditioner, or conditioner before using the lice shampoo.

1-2 days after the lice

Follow the instructions

Do not re-wash the hair for shampoo is removed.

on the label or box



carefully. The instructions are different depending on the type of treatment. If the infested person has very long hair (longer than shoulder length), it may be necessary to use a second bottle. Pay special attention to the instructions regarding how long the medication should be left on the hair and how it should be washed out.

Have the infested person put on clean clothing after treatment.

If a few live lice are still found 8-12 hours after treatment, but are moving more slowly than before, do not retreat. Comb any dead and any remaining live lice out of the hair using a nit comb.

If after 8-12 hours have past and no dead lice are found and the lice seem as active as before, the medicine may not be working. Do not retreat and check with your doctor. They may recommend a different treatment.



2. Remove the Nits:

The lice and nits should be removed with a nit comb. Metal combs or flea combs usually work better in removing the nits from the hair shaft. The medicated shampoo doesn't always work on lice less than 4 days old or on the eggs (nits). If the nits are not all removed they may hatch. Combing out the nits is easier if you keep the hair and the comb damp. Sit by a window or outside in order to have good lighting.

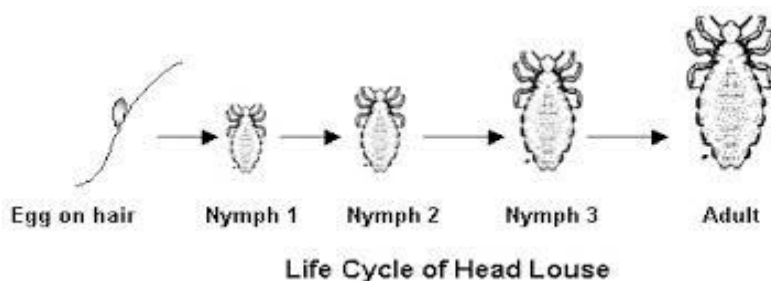
3. Clean your surroundings:



Machine wash and dry clothing, bed linens, stuffed animals, and other items that the infested person wore or used. Wash in hot water and dry in hot dryer for at least 40 minutes. Clothing that can't be washed can be dry-cleaned or placed in a sealed plastic bag and stored for 2 weeks.

Soak combs and brushes in hot water for at least 30 minutes.

Vacuum the floor and furniture, especially where the infested person sat or lay. Do not use insecticide sprays as they can be toxic if inhaled or absorbed through the skin.





4. Ways to prevent lice from coming back:

REMOVE ALL THE NITS

After each treatment, checking the hair and combing with metal nit comb every 2-3 days to remove nits and lice.

Read label instructions carefully. A second treatment may be recommended a week later. The second treatment will take care of newly hatched lice.

Continue to check every few days for 2-3 weeks to be sure all lice and nits are gone.