

COMMON CONCERNS IN SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Disease: **Impetigo**

Symptoms: Blisters, pustules rapidly covered with honey-colored crust. May be confused with cold sores. Usually seen first near mouth or nose, can spread rapidly.

Incubation Period: 1-6 days, occasionally longer

Usual School Action and Comments on Communicability:

1. Contagious until lesions are healed.
2. Treat with over-the-counter antibiotic ointment.

Source of Infection and Mode of Transmission: Bacteria spread by direct contact with sores, sometimes with contact from discharges from nose or throat of patient; airborne transmission also occurs. Usually caused by Streptococcus or Staphylococcus bacteria.

Note: Children and adolescents should not be given aspirin containing medications unless specifically prescribed by physician. Good hand washing is the best prevention of disease