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SCABIES SCREENING PROGRAM
Scabies is a very contagious skin condition caused by a mite. The rash is extremely itchy and can be difficult to diagnose. It can affect both humans and animals. The mite causes symptoms such as itching and bumpy tracks when it digs a tunnel below the skin (a burrow) and causes a type of allergic reaction. Scabies can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, or personal hygiene. It is almost always contracted by close human contact.

Signs and Symptoms:
Sufferers experience severe continuous itching, especially at night. If several members of the same family or close contacts have the same symptoms, it is a good indicator that scabies is the cause. There may be small insect bites or tracks visible, especially between finger or toes, the waist area or under the breasts.

Treatment:
Creams containing 5% Permethrin, which can be prescribed by a health care provider, are applied to a clean body from the neck down to the toes. It is left on overnight (8 hours) and then washed off. This application is usually repeated in seven days. All clothes, bedding and towels should be washed in hot water and dried.

Return to School:
Once treated, the student may attend school. However, the rash and itching may persist for 1 - 2 weeks.

The Duval County School Board and Duval County Health Department personnel have jointly agreed on the following standard system-wide procedure for control of scabies:

Responsibility of School Principals
- Detect cases of scabies via reports from teachers or parents.
- Contact the parent of the student found at school with scabies.
- Send the "Scabies Fact Sheet Letter" (Attachment E-XXX-I) to all students in classrooms where scabies has been discovered. If scabies is discovered in two or more classrooms, send this letter to parents of all students in the school.
- Readmit students who have a letter from a health care provider or the Department of Health in Duval County stating that the student has been treated.

Responsibility of Department of Health in Duval County
- Demonstrate and participate in direct inspections at schools where necessary.
- Provide advice about treatment of scabies.
- Provide treatment and medication for indigent students as necessary.
- Respond to requests from principals for assistance and/or advice for unusual problems.

Responsibility of Parents
- Provide letter from health care provider or Department of Health in Duval County.