

### **Ringworm of the body (Tinea Corporis)**

Ringworm is an infection caused by a fungus, not a worm. This fungus is transmitted by direct contact with infected persons or contaminated articles or surfaces. Red, round itchy patches develop, and can increase in size. The patches are most common on the trunk, face, and arms, but can be found anywhere on the skin. There are other skin problems that resemble ringworm. Please contact your healthcare provider, health department, or pharmacist for recommended treatments.

**Children may attend school as soon as proof of treatment is shown to the school secretary or school nurse. Proof of treatment can be one of the following: note from the physician/healthcare provider or the empty outer container of medication.** Failure to treat these areas can result in widespread infection to other family members, fellow classmates, and adults in the schools. The school nurse will recheck the affected area after 1-2 weeks. If the infection persists, a physician should be contacted.

### **Ringworm of the scalp (Tinea Capitis)**

Ringworm of the scalp is a fungal infection of the hair follicles. The fungus is transmitted by direct personal contact with infected persons or infected articles. Patches may appear as bald spots, crusted weeping sores, or dandruff.

All students with suspected ringworm of the scalp must see a physician or other healthcare provider for treatment, because most cases require oral prescription medication. The student may return to school after being cleared by a physician or healthcare provider. **A doctor's note must be presented to the school office or school nurse before the student can return to school.**