

Nurse's Corner on Ringworm

Ringworm is common among school age-kids. Ringworm is not caused by a worm. It is caused by a fungus. It appears as a ring shape on the skin or scalp. It is very itchy.

The only way to treat ringworm of the scalp is with a course of oral anti-fungal medication, taken for 6 to 8 weeks, prescribed by your physician.

Most ringworm of the skin can be treated at home. You can buy creams without a prescription. It's important to keep using the cream for as long as the label or doctor advises.

Ringworm is very contagious. Don't share hats, towels, or clothes. Practice good hand washing. All students with possible ringworm may not come to school, until treatment is started.

Ringworm needs to be covered to protect the student from passing it onto other students or other areas of the body. A dog or cat with ringworm can also infect your child. It is important to treat it quickly, so it does not spread.