Your child may have been exposed to:

**Molluscum Contagiosum**

Molluscum contagiosum is a common viral skin infection.

If you think your child has Molluscum Contagiosum:

- Tell your childcare provider or call the school.
- Need to stay home?
  **Childcare and School:**
  No. Cover bumps with clothing if skin-to-skin contact will occur.
  **Activities:**
  Avoid participating in swimming or contact sports if the bumps cannot be covered with clothing or a watertight bandage.

**Symptoms**

Your child may have bumps on the face, body, arms, or legs. The bumps are small, pale, shiny, and dome-shaped. The bump color may be flesh, white or pink. There may be a dimple on the top. The bumps are usually painless. Rarely, the bumps are itchy, red, swollen, and/or sore.

If your child is infected, it may take 2 to 7 weeks for symptoms to develop. However, it could be up to 6 months.

**Spread**

- By skin-to-skin contact with an infected person.
- By using contaminated towels, wash cloths, equipment.
- By touching or scratching your bumps and then touching another part of your body.

**Contagious Period**

Until the soft, white core comes out of the center of the bumps. After the bumps begin to heal, the risk of spreading the infection will be very low.

**Call your Healthcare Provider**

♦ If anyone in your home has symptoms. Your doctor will decide if treatment is needed.

**Prevention**

- Avoid touching, picking, or scratching skin with bumps or blisters.
- Cover bumps with clothing or a bandage when others will come in contact with the skin. This will help prevent touching or scratching the bumps and help prevent spread.
- Change bandages daily or when soiled. Discard used bandages in trash.
- Wash hands after touching the bumps or handling bandages.

**Contact sports or using shared equipment:**

- Avoid sharing towels, wash cloths, uniforms, clothing, or other personal items.
- Avoid using sports or pool equipment that has not been disinfected.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Kentucky Department for Public Health Frankfort, KY  http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/
Kentucky Regional Poison Center Louisville, KY  EMERGENCY: 1-800-222-1222
Lake Cumberland District Health Department Somerset, KY  www.lcdhd.org  (606) 678-4761
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Atlanta, GA  Toll free: 1-800-311-3435  www.cdc.gov

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