## **Impetigo**

Impetigo is a bacterial skin infection. It usually occurs on the nose, arms, or legs or around the mouth.

# If you think your child has Impetigo:

- Tell your childcare provider or call the school.
- Need to stay home?

#### **Childcare and School:**

Yes, if impetigo is confirmed by your healthcare provider, until 24 hours of treatment has been completed and sores are drying.

## **Symptoms**

Your child may have sores on the skin. The sores can produce a thick golden-yellow discharge that dries, crusts, and sticks to the skin. It usually begins at a break in the skin. It could start near a cut or insect bite.

If your child is infected, it may take 1 to 10 days for symptoms to start.

## **Spread**

- By touching the fluid from the sores.

#### **Contagious Period**

Until sores are healed or the person has been treated for at least 24 hours.

### **Call your Healthcare Provider**

♦ If anyone in your home has symptoms of impetigo. Your doctor may prescribe a medication.

#### **Prevention**

- Wash hands after touching anything that could be contaminated with fluid from the sores. Your child may need help with hand washing.
- Clean and disinfect objects that come in contact with fluid from the sores. Use a product that kills germs.
- DO NOT share towels, washcloths, or clothing.
- Keep sores covered with a bandage. Remind children not to scratch the sores.

#### 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