

# iMedix: Your Personal Health Advisor.

## Impetigo

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### Overview

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#### What is it

**Impetigo: Clinical Nursing Care** What is impetigo? Impetigo is a common and highly contagious skin infection that mainly affects infants and children. It's characterized by red sores, usually around the nose and mouth, that quickly rupture, ooze for a few days, and form a yellowish-brown crust. It's typically caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* or *Streptococcus pyogenes* bacteria. How is impetigo spread? Impetigo is spread through direct contact with the sores or with items that have touched the sores, such as towels, bedding, or clothing. It can also be spread through contact with nasal discharge from an infected person. It's highly contagious, so close physical contact should be avoided. What are the symptoms of impetigo? Symptoms include red sores that quickly rupture, ooze, and form a yellow-brown crust. Sores usually appear around the nose and mouth but can spread to other areas of the body. Itching and mild discomfort are common, and swollen lymph nodes may occur near the infected area. How is impetigo diagnosed? Impetigo is usually diagnosed based on the appearance of the sores. In some cases, a doctor may take a sample from the sore to identify the bacteria causing the infection, which can help determine the most effective treatment. What is the treatment for impetigo? Treatment typically involves antibiotic ointments or creams for mild cases. For more severe cases, oral antibiotics may be prescribed. It's important to keep the infected area clean and to avoid scratching, which can spread the infection to other parts of the body or to other people. Can impetigo lead to complications? Complications from impetigo are rare but can occur, especially if the infection is left untreated. Complications may include cellulitis (a deeper skin infection), kidney inflammation, and, in rare cases, scarring. Prompt treatment usually prevents these complications. How can impetigo be prevented? Prevention includes practicing good hygiene, such as regular handwashing, keeping skin clean, avoiding sharing personal items like towels and clothing, and covering any cuts or wounds. It's also important to keep children with impetigo home from school or daycare until they are no longer contagious. Impetigo typically affects children, especially those in close quarters like schools or daycare settings. However, it can also occur in adults with compromised immune systems or poor hygiene practices. The infection is mainly caused by bacteria like *Staphylococcus aureus* or *Streptococcus pyogenes*. Treatment for impetigo usually includes regular cleansing of the sores, application of prescription or over-the-counter topical antibiotics, and practicing good hygiene habits to prevent the further spread of the infection. In severe cases or when complications arise, oral antibiotics may be required. It is important to seek medical attention if symptoms worsen or persist despite initial treatment. Prevention of impetigo can be achieved by practicing proper personal hygiene, regularly washing hands, avoiding close contact with infected individuals, and keeping personal items clean. Prompt treatment of any cuts or abrasions can also help prevent the entry of bacteria and subsequent infection. **Medications for Various Health Needs:** Zovirax for treating viral infections; Daklinza in hepatitis C therapy; Addyi for female sexual health; Xyzal as an antihistamine; Amoxil against bacterial infections; Propecia for hair growth; Clomid in fertility enhancement; Priligy for sexual health management; Eriacta, Suhagra, Tadacip, Kamagra, Nizagara, Silagra, and Caverta for treating erectile dysfunction; Synthroid for thyroid disorders; Cipro as a versatile antibiotic; Proscar for prostate issues; Nolvadex for breast cancer therapy. **Impetigo Causes of Impetigo:** *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria; *Streptococcus pyogenes* bacteria; Direct contact with infected person's skin or items; Poor hygiene practices; Cuts, and insect bites; Weakened immune system; Red sores or blisters on the face, especially around the nose and mouth area; Fluid-filled sores that may burst and develop a yellow, honey-colored crust; Itchy rash that

may spread to other parts of the body. Swollen lymph nodes near the affected area. Pain or discomfort in the affected skin. Fever in some cases. Generally feeling unwell or fatigued.