

Social risk factor assessment questions

- What is your relationship to the child, e.g. parent, aunt, family friend?
- Does the child live/stay regularly with any other family members?
 - Record details (if appropriate/there are no privacy issues) in notes
- Is the family able to manage treatment of the skin infection(s) at home, e.g. more support may be required to assist with understanding medications, supporting all members of the household to be treated and to carry out required household and personal hygiene measures to eradicate an infestation such as scabies or fleas.
 - If the family is unlikely to manage /cope, refer to a community health worker, whānau ora service or local health or social service organisation for assistance.
 - Use skin health resources and relevant information sheets to have a 'plain language' conversation to explain cause, management, medications, prevention of reinfection etc. Check understanding: ask the patient/caregiver to explain in their own words what they need to know or do next.
- Does each family member have their own towel? Is there shared bathing and shared use of soap? How often does the child bath or shower? Is there a washing machine/access to adequate washing facilities in the household? Are there adequate first aid supplies in the household, e.g. fabric plasters?
 - Hygiene and hand washing should be discussed with all patients/families. Use skin health resources to have conversations and check understanding.
 - If required, refer to a community health worker, whānau ora service or local health or social service organisation for assistance.
 - Patients/families may be eligible for assistance from WINZ for power payments, doctor's visits, prescriptions, cleaning supplies and eczema management skincare products through Special Needs Grant, Recoverable Assistance, Disability Allowance or Advance of Benefit.
- Are there fleas or mosquitoes in the home?
 - If 'Yes' provide advice/tips for eradication of fleas and mosquitoes. **For fleas:** wash all items that pets are likely to sleep on or near. Wash bedding, blankets etc. and what can't be washed, put out in the sunlight, e.g. pillows, duvets, cushions. Use a flea bomb or other household flea extermination options and ensure flea treatments such as collars are applied to pets. **For mosquitoes:** use insect repellent on uncovered skin surfaces, sleeping nets and screens to protect against mosquitoes. Wear loose, long sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors. Mosquito breeding grounds around the house are commonly found in areas where there is stagnant water such as old tyres, flower pots and deep puddles. Empty all items with stagnant water and remove items from outdoor areas. Keep grass mowed and weeds and shrubs trimmed back.

- Is there overcrowding in the household? Use the criteria below to determine if there is crowding:
 - How many adults and children are living in the house?
 - How many bedrooms in the house?
 - How many rooms are used for sleeping (including lounge, hallway, garage etc.)?
 - If overcrowding is likely, refer to a community health worker, whānau ora service, local health or social service organisation or other appropriate housing support service for assistance.

- Do you live in a cold and/or damp, mouldy house?
 - Check if the house is rented or owned. If rented: private or Housing New Zealand?
 - If the house is damp and/or cold, refer to a community health worker, whānau ora service, local health or social service organisation or other appropriate housing support or insulation service for assistance.

- Are there smokers in the household?
 - If 'Yes', ask about readiness to quit and provide advice and support to quit and/or to have a smokefree home and car. If appropriate, refer to smoking cessation service.

- Which day care, early childhood education (ECE) centre or school does the child attend?
 - Record in the notes
 - You may be able to refer to a Public Health Nurse or school nurse if the child is at primary school or Well Child Tamariki Ora provider if the child is of pre-school age, for support with medications and skin health
 - The ECE that the child attends may have other children with similar skin infections. Refer to Public Health Nurse if there is a likelihood of other children with infections.