**Pediculosis /Lice Treatment**

Considering that the contagion is only possible through direct contact, we ask parents to check their children carefully. The aim is to individuate the problem to intervene steadily avoiding further contagion from child to child.

To this purpose is crucial:

* To start the **anti-lice treatment**as soon as parasites have been spotted
* That the child returns to school only when the treatment started

As you already know, you can buy all the necessary products for the treatment in pharmacies without medical prescription.

Important: You must start the treatment only if lice are present; indeed, products are inadequate for prevention purposes, instead they increase the risk of allergies and/or irritation, as well as lice’s resistance.

**If a child will “escape” from controls and eventual treatment, the wellness of each child would be endangered.**

On the school website, it is possible to find an informative sheet related to this issue, provided by A.S.L.

We kindly ask parents to return the attachment n.1, which is a self-certification of the health check done by their child, to teachers (the coupon can be found also in the school diary).

Class\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parent of the student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the kindergarten/primary/1st level secondary school of:

* Terno
* Chignolo d’Isola

HEREBY DECLARE

To have received the notice n.39 – 08/10/2014 and its related **attachment n.1**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

(signature)

**ATTACHMENT N.1**

SELF-DECLARATION FOR HEALTH CHECK PURPOSES

I, the undersigned …………………………………… Parent/legal tutor of the student………………………..Class …………….... of the kindergarten/primary/1st level secondary of: Terno and Chignolo d’Isola

Hereby declare:

* To have inspected my child’s head and to have not found any lice and/or parasites
* To have inspected my child’s head; where I found lice and/or parasites and to have done the anti-parasites treatment
* To have accompanied the child to the doctor who didn’t found lice and/or parasites
* To have accompanied the child to the doctor who found lice and/or parasites and who did the anti-parasites treatment

Date……………………………. …………………………………………………….

Parent / tutor’s signature



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**HEAD PEDICULOSIS/LICE**

 **What is a louse? What is pediculosis?**

A louse is a 2-4 mm insect, which lives and reproduces itself only on the human’s head, drinking its blood. The female can lay 10 eggs a day. From each egg, in 7-8 days, new adults will be born.

Pediculosis is a lice infestation and it mainly attacks children. Indeed, outbreaks often happen in school communities.



**How are lice transmitted?**

The contagion exclusively happens with direct contact, more rarely through hair combs and hairbrushes. It is not a sign of bad hygiene and it can affect all social levels. Indeed, the louse does not jump nor fly and it can survive only 1-2 days far from human heads.

**How can we prevent it?**

Generally, pediculosis cannot be prevented.

**The most effective method to reduce lice spreading massively** is the parents’ **constant control** of their children, to rapidly find an eventual presence of lice and/or eggs and send their children back to school only when the treatment started.

**Moreover, it should be also noted that doing anti-lice treatment for prevention is useless; indeed, products are inadequate for prevention purposes, instead, they increase the risk of allergies and/or irritation, as well as lice’s resistance. Thus, only affected children must be treated.**

**How to inspect the head?**

If you carefully inspect the head it is easy to find eggs, whose length is less than 1mm. The eggs differ from dandruff for their oval form, because they are translucent and because they adhere to hair in a way that they can be only removed manually one-by-one, while dandruff can be blown away.

Lice and eggs can be easily found on temples, behind ears and on the back of the head.

**What to do when lice/eggs are present?**

First, remember that lice do not cause health problems. Once you are calm on this front, you can start the treatment, always remembering to check other family members. The most effective products are Permetrina, Piretrina e Malathion based lotions and gels, which you can find in all the pharmacies. Leave the treatment work for at least 10 min, always following what is written on the package leaflet. The shampoo treatment, even if medical, is less effective. It is a good practice to repeat the treatment after 7-10 days. If the treatment does not produce the desired effects, it is better to change the product used.

After the treatment with anti-parasites, it is important to assure that no more eggs are using a fine-toothed comb or manually after having applied a solution (50% water + 50% vinegar). **It is of foremost importance that the child has no eggs when he/she returns to the school.**

The disinfestation of house and school spaces is not compulsory. Regular daily cleaning is enough.

**How to “treat” “infected” clothes and objects?**

Hair combs and hairbrushes must be washed with hot water and anti-parasites shampoo and left in a basin in the bathroom.

Sheets, pillowcases, towels, clothes, and shoes should always be washed at 60 degrees. Put in a well-closed plastic bag for 15-20 days all the things that cannot be washed.

Vacuum-clean sofas, pillows and seats, especially tissue ones.

**How to protect the community?**

Parents must monitor *daily* their children when pediculosis has been signaled in the school to treat them as soon as lice and/or eggs are present.

*It is important to signal to the school the pediculosis to allow teachers to implement all the preventive measures.*

**The child can return to school the day after the treatment started.**

When the School Director or a delegate notices to the family eventual symptoms that can lead to pediculosis, when the child returns to school, he/she will have to show a declaration about the activities undertaken, if requested.

M.MI.08/0 scheda informativa genitori scuole

Traduzione realizzata con il Progetto FAMI LAB'IMPACT

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