

### Typical scabies

Human scabies is an infestation of the skin caused by the human itch mite. The scabies mite is usually spread by **direct, prolonged, skin-to-skin contact** with a person who has scabies. Generally, contact must be prolonged, such as sleeping next to a person with scabies. Scabies is sometimes spread indirectly by sharing clothing, towels or bedding used by an infested person; such indirect spread can occur much more easily when the infested person has crusted (Norwegian) scabies.

### Disinfection

Mites generally do not survive more than **2–3 days** away from human skin. Bedding, clothing and towels used by infested people any time during the 3 days before **treatment should be machine washed and dried using the hot water and hot dryer cycles** or be **dry-cleaned**.

### Our stance

Due to our machines only washing in cold water, we do not recommend knowingly washing laundry infested with scabies. However, if you suspect that you have washed laundry infected with scabies or a friend with the infection has used the shower, follow the steps below:

#### Washing Machine & Dryer Clean

- 1. Put on a fresh pair of disposable *Nitrile powder-free* gloves.**
- 2.** Ask the friend to remove their laundry from the machine & place it into a clean rubbish bag (if available) being careful not to flick the laundry around.
- 3.** Using the Glen 20 (or similar) & a disposable single-use cloth, spray & wipe clean the inside & outside of each machine, including:
  - the drum, fins & rubber seals;
  - the door handles;
  - the control panel & buttons;
  - all washing baskets used
- 4.** Using the Glen 20 (or similar) & a new disposable single-use cloth, spray the inside & outside of each machine again, but this time, let the spray air dry on the surfaces for 10 minutes (or the time specified by the manufacturer) before wiping clean. This is the process that will **kill** any germs.
- 5.** Lastly, dispose of the gloves & all single-use cloths in the rubbish & return the cleaning products.

#### Shower Clean

- 1. Put on a fresh pair of disposable *Nitrile powder-free* gloves, a face mask (optional) & safety glasses.**
- 2.** Open the rear door & turn on the fan to ensure adequate **ventilation & airflow** while cleaning.
- 3.** Clean the shower cubicle by wiping down all surfaces including the washbasin with the cleaner.
- 4.** Rinse the areas & ensure there is no water left in the cubicle or in the basin.
- 6.** Spray & wipe clean the internal intercom buttons & the exhaust fan on/off switch.
- 7.** Place any used towels in a separate rubbish bag to be washed separately.
- 8.** Spray the shower cubicle & basin again with Glen 20 disinfectant (or similar) & let the spray air dry on the surfaces for 10 minutes (or the time specified by the manufacturer) before wiping clean. This is the process that will **kill** any germs.
- 10.** Lastly, dispose of the gloves, face mask & all single-use cloths in the rubbish & return the cleaning products.

#### Cleaning and disinfecting are two different processes:

- **Cleaning** means physically **removing** germs, dirt and organic matter from surfaces.
- **Disinfecting** means using chemicals to **kill** germs on surfaces. It's important to clean before disinfecting because organic matter and dirt can reduce the ability of disinfectants to kill germs.