

HOW DID CHICKEN POX GET ITS NAME?

Once upon a time in England people used to call their children “chickens” instead of “kids” and people once thought the red spots looked like chickpeas!

(Source: www.kidshealth.org)

CHICKENPOX: THE BASICS

Q. DOES THE CHICKENPOX VACCINE REALLY WORK?

A. The chicken pox vaccine is the best way to prevent chickenpox. Approximately, 80-90% of people who receive the vaccine have complete protection from chickenpox. However, some people do get chickenpox even though they had the vaccine, but it is usually a milder case with fewer blisters and a quicker recovery.

Q. HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR SYMPTOMS TO APPEAR?

A. The incubation period is 10-21 days, but most cases of chickenpox appear 14-17 days after exposure.

Q. HOW LONG IS SOMEONE CONTAGIOUS?

A. The contagious period begins about 2 days BEFORE the rash develops and last all the way until all the blisters are crusted over.

Q. WHEN CAN MY CHILD GO BACK TO SCHOOL?

A. Your child can return to school once all the blisters have crusted over (usually about a week).

Q. WILL ANTIBIOTICS CURE CHICKENPOX?

A. No. Chickenpox is caused by a virus; therefore, antibiotics will not help (antibiotics only help with bacterial infections). Your child’s healthcare provider may prescribe antibiotics if the sores happen to get infected by bacteria.

Please call your healthcare provider if you are concerned your child may have chickenpox.

(Source www.kidshealth.org)

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