

Molluscum Contagiosum

1. What are Molluscum contagiosum?

It is a very common disease seen mostly in children, adolescents and sometimes in adult population too. It's caused by a virus. It is a transmissible disease.

2. What causes this disease?

This is transmitted by a Pox virus. An infected individual can transmit the disease to another through close contact or infected objects.

This is not an inherited disease.

3. What are the symptoms of the disease?

This causes small 2-6mm sized skin coloured papules over the skin. Rarely it may itch.

4. How to recognize Molluscum contagiosum?

This can be easily diagnosed by a consultant Dermatologist.

5. Is this curable?

This is usually cured by one's own immunity.

An infected individual should be referred for the treatment when there are multiple lesions or if the lesions get inflamed. This disease can be completely cured by proper treatment.

6. What are the treatment modalities available?

Squeezing the lesions will lead to development of own immunity against the lesions.

If not, other options are:

- Topical applications. E.g.: TCA
- Cryotherapy (Liquid Nitrogen)
- Electro-Cautery treatment.

7. How to prevent the disease?

An infected individual should avoid sharing or borrowing personal items.

It is safe to send children with molluscum contagiosum to school.

