

Leamington Mennonite Home
Long Term Care

**INFECTION CONTROL
POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

CATEGORY: Disease-Specific Precautions	SUBJECT: Head Lice Management	SECTION: H POLICY: 9
DATE: January 24, 2024	Administrator's Signature: _____ <i>J. M.</i>	
REVISION DATES:	IPAC Lead's Signature: _____ <i>L. Coppola, RN.</i>	

HEAD LICE MANAGEMENT

POLICY:

Head lice is a louse that infests the scalp and hair of the human head. They are tiny grayish brown insects 1 – 2 mm long. They do not jump, fly, or spread disease. Head lice guidelines will prevent the transmission of lice to residents and staff.

PROCEDURE:

- 1) If the resident has complaints of scalp irritation or staff notices resident scratching head, report to Registered Staff.
- 2) Registered Staff will examine the resident's scalp thoroughly for lice or nits.
- 3) If head lice or nits are detected, the Registered Staff will notify the Medical Director to obtain an order for treatment.
- 4) Resident will be placed on isolation until the treatment is completed.
- 5) Registered Staff will apply treatment as instructed. Gown and glove while applying treatment. Following treatment all nits must be removed and carefully disposed of in a tied plastic bag to prevent re-infestation.
- 6) All bed linens and recently worn clothing will be placed in an isolation bag and sent to laundry. Regular laundering in hot water will eliminate the lice.
- 7) All combs, brushes and hair accessories will be disinfected by soaking in Oxivir disinfectant solution for 30 minutes, then rinsed with water and returned to the resident.
- 8) Registered Staff will notify family members and instruct to examine anyone's scalp who has been in close contact with the resident. The examinations should continue daily for a period of two weeks.

- 9) Resident should stay in isolation for one week.
- 10) Examine the resident's scalp daily for one month period to ensure all nits were eliminated.
- 11) The resident should be bathed last and the tub purged after the bath.