

## **DERMATITIS/RASH**

### **Current Anticipatory guidance Recommendations and Education (CARE)**

#### **What is a Dermatitis?**

- Dermatitis is another word for rash
- There are many reasons kids develop rashes including **viruses** and as a **reaction** to something
- Sometimes this a reaction to a bug bite or sometimes it is a reaction to some type of plant, soaps, lotion, foods or medications
- Some children have more sensitive skin and may develop rashes more easily
- Often it is very **difficult to figure out what may have caused a reaction** in the Emergency Department but at home be aware of new soaps and lotions and new food exposures.

#### **\*\*\*Did you know?\*\*\***

**ANTIBIOTICS DON'T TREAT VIRAL INFECTIONS.**

**Overuse of antibiotics can make future bacteria infections more difficult to treat.**

#### **What should I expect?**

- Some kids will have itchiness to their rashes and some kids will be uncomfortable
- Rashes may spread to different parts of the body
- Many rashes do not spread to other people but some do so good hand washing as well as washing clothes and sheets is important

#### **What can I do for my child?**

- If itching is a problem you may give your child diphenhydramine also known as **Benadryl** every 6 hours at the dose listed on the box.
- Treat your child with Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen for fever or if they are uncomfortable
- Monitor new exposures for your child such as new soaps, new lotions or new foods
- Everyone in the house should keep their hands clean and clothes and sheets should all be washed

#### **How long with my child be sick for?**

- Rashes may last several days to weeks depending on the type of rash
- Fevers should last about 3 to 4 days total

#### **When should I get immediate attention?**

- All kids should **follow up with their regular doctors** a few days after being in the ER
- If your child is very fussy and does not get better with fever treatment
- If our child is not acting normally with treatment
- If your child is becoming dehydrated with no or very few wet diapers over a day or two and is refusing to drink any fluids
- If your child develops other symptoms such as joint pain or if your child did not have a fever and develops one

- If your child has a stiff neck
- If your child has a fever that lasts more than 5 days