

## **Key Information Points: Head Lice Treatment & Removal**

**If parents call asking about head lice and what they can do, below please find some quick points to help facilitate the conversation.**

### **1. First, remind parents not to panic!**

- Head lice are common and don't have anything to do with cleanliness.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control, head lice affects 6-12 million households each year.
- Head lice typically do not carry diseases and cannot be spread by pets.

### **2. Check the child for head lice, eggs and nits by combing through the hair.**

- Pay special attention to areas around the ears and nape of the neck.
- Head lice are about the size of a sesame seed and are grayish brown.
- Eggs/nits are white, yellow, brown or tan in hue and are about the size of a poppy seed.

### **3. Options for head lice treatment.**

- There are many over-the-counter products currently available, including the new pesticide-free breakthrough, LiceMD®.

### **4. Combing is very important!**

- Follow the instructions that come with the treatment closely.
- It is important to take the time and comb through the hair thoroughly, starting at the scalp.
- View an instructional head lice removal video at [www.LiceMD.com](http://www.LiceMD.com).

### **5. Itch or no itch, continue to check!**

- Even if itching does not occur, continue to check the hair and scalp.
- If head lice remain after several treatments, recommend that the parent call you back.

### **6. Remind parents – it's not just the hair!**

- To prevent re-infestation, parents should follow the suggested steps to remove head lice from the home:
  - Wash bedding, towels and clothing with hot soapy water and dry items in a dryer on highest heat setting.
  - Vacuum carpets, pillows, mattresses, overstuffed furniture and the seats in your car.
  - Store items like stuffed animals and non-washable pillows in tightly sealed bags for at least two weeks.
  - Soak family combs and brushes in very hot water for 5 to 10 minutes.