

# ECZEMA SKIN CARE MADE SIMPLE

# **BATHING, MEDICATIONS & MOISTURIZING**



## BATHING

- Bathe once daily with warm water for 5 to 10 minutes.
- Clean with gentle, non-scented cleansers. Right after the bath, pat skin gently with a clean, soft towel.
  - Make sure you apply moisturizer after every bath or shower.



#### **MEDICATION**

Apply a layer of prescription creams or ointments on the red, itchy and rough rash areas as prescribed by your doctor (e.g. twice a day).
One application can be after

having a bath.



## MOISTURIZING

 Put a good amount of moisturizer on the entire body at least twice a day (three if you can!).
 See our Seal of Acceptance products

for some suggestions.

Need help finding suitable skin care products? Look for the **Eczema Society of Canada Seal of Acceptance** on moisturizers and cleansers at your local drug or grocery store. **eczemahelp.ca** 

## **AROUND THE HOME**



#### **CLOTHING & BEDDING**

Use 100% cotton clothing and bedding, protect your mattress with a dust mite cover, wash sheets weekly, and avoid overheating.



LAUNDRY

Wash laundry with mild, fragrance- and dye-free detergents. Rinse twice if possible.



**ENVIRONMENT** 

Keep your house cool, try a humidifier in the winter, avoid playing in grass or leaves, and avoid products that might irritate your skin.



**FEEDING** 

For babies and young children, apply moisturizer around the mouth before feeding.

#### **KEEP IN MIND**



Infected eczema (yellow scabbing, visible pus, swollen skin, or increasing pain and warmth) needs to be seen by a doctor immediately.



Keep skin moisturized to reduce itch.

Keep nails smooth and trimmed short. Wear soft cotton gloves at night if this helps.

#### **MANAGING FLARE-UPS**



Reduce stress as much as possible as stress can make your eczema worse.



During a flare up or period of intense itching, try a cool compress, take a cool bath or shower and apply moisturizer.



Try finding a distracting activity such as reading, watching television or playing a video game.

For more information or support, contact Eczema Society of Canada at 1-855-ECZEMA-1 or eczemahelp.ca We thank Dr. Rachel Asiniwasis, MD, FRCPC (Dermatology) and Dr. Joseph Lam, MD, FRCPC (Paediatrics) for their contributions on this resource. Copyright © 2015-2016