



Photos taken from saisd.net, Sep 2012



PARENT HANDOUT ON PINWORMS

OVERVIEW: Pinworm is a small thin, white roundworm that lives in the colon and rectum of humans. Pinworms are about the length of a staple. While an infected person sleeps, female pinworms leave the intestine through the anus and deposit their eggs on the surrounding skin.

SIGNS/SYMPTOMS: Itching of anal region, tiredness due to waking up at night because of itching, or stomach pain.

HOW TRANSMITTED: People

become infected, by swallowing infective pinworm eggs that are on fingers, under fingernails, or on clothing, bedding, and other contaminated objects and surfaces.

HOW DIAGNOSED: Itching at night of the child's perianal area strongly suggests infection. Diagnosis is made by indentifying the worms or its eggs.

Worms can sometimes be seen on the skin near the anus or on underclothing, pajamas, or sheets about 2 to 3 hours after falling asleep.

PREVENTION MEASURES: Good hand washing. Keep fingernails clean and short, avoid biting nails, and avoid scratching the skin in the perianal area. Wash, blankets, clothing, sheets, and underwear in hot water

TREATMENT: Treatment involves two doses of medication, with the second dose being given 2 weeks after the first dose. Family should also be treated.

COMPLICATIONS: Reinfection occurs easily.

BOTTOM LINE:

- *Wash Hands
- *Don't scratch
- *Take medication
- *Keep nails clean and short
- *Wash, blankets, clothing, sheets, and underwear in hot water

