



---

## What is Molluscum Contagiosum?

- It is a disease of the skin caused by a virus

## What are symptoms that could occur?

- Most people have no symptoms
- Painless, wart-like lesions on the skin
- Some lesions have a hard, white core, while others may have a dent in the center
- They are the color of skin, but have a waxy appearance
- Can be anywhere on the body, but most common on the face, groin and genitals

## How is it spread?

- By direct skin contact; often spread through sexual activity
- Can be spread by contact with objects in contact with lesions

## How is it diagnosed and treated?

- Primary care provider evaluation
- Treated with liquid nitrogen, cautery, laser or chemicals, or can be scraped off or scooped out
- Usually goes away on its own after 6-12 months

## Should the sick individual be isolated?

- No, except for infected children with visible lesions, who should be excluded from close contact sports such as wrestling
- The bumps may be itchy, and the infection is more likely to spread if the child is scratching them and then contacting other people or surfaces. A cold compress is very effective to relieve itching.

## Should facilities do special cleaning?

- Special cleaning is not necessary. Routine cleaning with EPA approved products is recommended.

## If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department at 257-1017