



Lice Treatment Options

PRODUCT	ACTIVE INGREDIENT	METHOD OF USE
<p>Examples include: Nix® Creme Rinse and Kwellada-P®.</p>	<p>Permethrin (1%):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permethrin is a topical insecticide that is neurotoxic to head lice • It is applied to damp hair that has been shampooed with a non-conditioning shampoo and towel dried. The pediculocide is left on for 10 minutes and then rinsed off. • Reshampooing hair too soon (less than 2 days) after correctly applying and removing permethrin can reduce or eliminate any residual killing effect on the lice. • Permethrin kills live lice but not un-hatched eggs It is suggested that a second application be repeated in 7 to 10 days if live lice are seen. Many experts now recommend routine retreatment, preferably on day 9.
<p>An example is R&C Shampoo®</p>	<p>Pyrethrin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pyrethrins are topical insecticides that are neurotoxic to head lice. • Pyrethrins generally should not be used by persons who are allergic to chrysanthemums or ragweed. • Pyrethrin products are available in shampoo or mousse formulations that are applied to dry hair and left on for 10 minutes before rinsing out. • Re-treatment in 7–10 days is required to kill newly emerged nymphs hatched from any eggs that survived the first treatment. New evidence suggests that retreatment on day 9 is optimal.
<p>An example is NYDA®.</p>	<p>Dimeticone 100 cSt:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Products based on dimeticone create a physical barrier around the louse that eventually smothers and kills it, but does not act on the insect's nervous system and is thus unlikely to be affected by other chemicals • The product is sprayed on dry scalp and hair and massaged in thoroughly. After 30 minutes, hair is combed out with a lice comb to remove the dead lice and detached eggs. • The product is allowed to dry on hair and continue acting overnight (at least 8 hours). Hair can be washed the next morning with regular shampoo.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment may be repeated in 8–10 days if necessary to kill newly emerged nymphs hatched from eggs that survived the first treatment.
An example is Resultz®.	50 % Isopropyl Myristate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isopropyl myristate is a hair rinse that dissolves the exoskeleton of the louse, leading to dehydration and death. • The product is applied to dry hair and thoroughly massaged into the scalp, hair, and sides and nape of the neck. The product is rinsed off with warm water after 10 minutes. Hair can be washed if desired. • A second treatment is usually required at least 7 days later to kill newly emerged nymphs hatched from eggs not killed with the first treatment.
Non-pediculocide Treatment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If resistance to available over-the-counter products has been proven in the community, if the patient is too young, if there are other contraindications or if parents do not wish to use a pediculocide (e.g., the cost may be prohibitive), consider recommending mechanical removal, also known as “wet-combing” or “bug busting” • Wet hair appears to slow down the lice, facilitating their removal. Louse detection and removal combs that have flat-faced, parallel-sided teeth are preferred. They are designed to pull through the hair and pull out lice and their eggs. • Wet hair should be combed every third or fourth day for a period of two weeks. The process is labor intensive (30 minutes or longer). • The advantages include low cost and the fact that the process can be repeated over and over again without any side effects.

Manitoba Health Communicable Disease Management Protocol- Pediculosis Capitis (Head Lice) July 2014
<http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/protocol/pediculosis.pdf>