MAKE YOUR HOME A FREE ZONE



Fred Worm is our friendly threadworm and is here to explain about threadworms and how to treat them.

How common are threadworms?

Around 40% of children under the age of ten will get threadworms at some stage, so it is a very common condition. However, it's not always easy to recognise the symptoms, or know what to do if you find them!

So, how do I know if my child has threadworms?

The most common symptoms are:

- An itchy bottom
- White "threads" around the bottom and in the stools
- Bed wetting
- Disturbed sleep



fred says

But, some children have no symptoms at all, so it's worth looking for white, threadlike shapes in their stools.

How did my child get threadworms?

Threadworms come from eggs which are so small, you can't actually see them. The eggs stick under the fingernails and can be swallowed. This is the beginning of **the threadworm life cycle.**

Where do threadworm eggs come from?

Threadworms can be found in:

- House dust
- Clothing
- Carpets
- Towels
- Bedding



fred says

They can be picked up from another person who has threadworms, but they can't be caught from pets!

Are threadworms dangerous?

No, threadworms are harmless, but the intense itching they cause can be very uncomfortable and can cause bed-wetting. Treatment is simple and readily available from your pharmacist without prescription.

What is the threadworm life cycle?



Once the eggs have been swallowed, they hatch out in the gut, and the adult worms cling to the gut wall.

... the eggs are transferred to the fingers and then to the mouth which continues the cycle.







Female threadworms come out of the bottom at night and lay eggs. The sticky eggs cause itching, so when the bottom is scratched...

If my child has threadworms, should I keep them off school?

No, there is no reason to keep them off school, though you should let the school know as this is where threadworms are most likely to be passed on.

Will the rest of the family get threadworms as well?

Threadworms can spread very easily between family members, therefore the whole family should be treated to



Remember, the whole family should be treated.

prevent cross-infection between family members.

How can I treat threadworms?

Treatment is easy. Just ask your pharmacist for **Pripsen**.

How does Pripsen work?

The first dose of Pripsen treats the adult threadworms but some eggs may be left behind.



The key to treatment is to break the threadworm life cycle.

The second dose, taken 14 days later,

treats the young worms that have hatched from these eggs, before they are old enough to have laid any eggs themselves, breaking the life cycle of the threadworm.

Is there anything else

You can help prevent the spread of threadworms by:



Threadworms are not the result of a dirty home or a bad diet, so there is no need to feel ashamed.

- Washing hands and scrubbing fingernails with a nailbrush
 - before eating
 - after going to the lavatory
- Keeping underclothes, pyjamas and bed linen as clean as possible
- Bathing or showering regularly
- Using different towels and flannels for each member of the family
- Clean bedrooms and bathrooms as often as possible
- Regularly vacuuming carpets and rugs
- Keeping fingernails short and clean
- Discouraging children from scratching their bottoms, biting their nails or picking their noses

All these suggestions should be followed for six weeks after any infection, to minimise the risk of re-infection.

Remember, threadworms are a common ailment with a simple solution - if you have any questions about them, please talk to your health visitor, school nurse or local pharmacist, or visit www.fredworm.co.uk.

Pripsen a complete effective treatment for threadworm



Pripsen Powder (Piperazine Phosphate) is suitable for younger children and can be given to children from 3 months of age. Raspberry flavoured, it is ideal mixed with water or milk.

Pripsen Mebendazole Tablets are chewable with a pleasant orange taste and can be taken by children (and adults!) over 2 years of age.

All Pripsen products are:

- ✓ Sugar free
- ✓ Free from artificial colours

Remember, the whole family must be treated at the same time to prevent cross-infection.



A Family Pack is also available - just ask at your local pharmacy



If you need any advice about family treatment of threadworms, talk to your pharmacist, health visitor or school nurse. Pregnant or breast-feeding family members should not be treated. Always read the label.

