

Soundbite Script – Facing Impetigo

Dr. Asma Khan, Pediatrician, OSF HealthCare

“Impetigo is a bacterial infection of the skin. It happens, typically in younger ages, ages 2-5 is usually the prime age where we see impetigo. It is an infection caused by two main bacterias – staph or group A strep -- these are bugs that typically live in our skin. But sometimes when they are overgrown they can cause infections. They can cause these honey-crust lesions on our face, on our body and that is impetigo.”

Dr. Asma Khan, Pediatrician, OSF HealthCare

“Around the nose and around the mouth that is the most common presentation. You see these little bumps that start and are a little itchy and they all of sudden turn into these honey crust lesions that almost looks like a scab and that is pretty classic impetigo.”

Dr. Asma Khan, Pediatrician, OSF HealthCare

“If you have an active lesion, you wear a mask, take the mask off, put the mask back on, you can spread it to another spot. It’s very important we change out masks frequently, we wash our masks frequently as well and if we do have a lesion we can cover it up so we don’t spread it.”

Dr. Asma Khan, Pediatrician, OSF HealthCare

“Depends on how bad it is. If it’s mild little lesion here or there topical antibiotic is all you need so you just apply it a couple times a day for five days and within a day or two you should see improvement. For more extensive lesions, when it’s more widespread then we need an oral antibiotic for about 7 to 10 days and that should take care of it.”