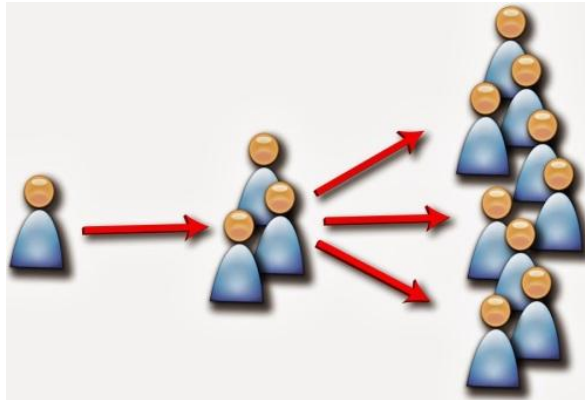


Question 4: Why did the doctor suggest that Steph. stay at home for a few days?

Impetigo is highly contagious.

Another person can become infected either by having direct contact with the infected individual or by touching things that have been previously touched by the infected person and therefore, may contain infectious residues of the infection. Due to such, once infected, a person can quickly and easily pass it on to many others.

One of the main symptoms of impetigo is itching at the site of infection which enhances the spread as one continuously touches the site and then other surfaces.



Retrieved from <http://www.shingleexpert.org/is-shingles-contagious>

For Stephanie's case, the doctor's recommendation for her to stay at home for a few days is a proper preventative measure against the spread of the disease and also a method by which she can more quickly recover from her infection.

- Given Stephanie's age, she will most likely be interacting with other young children who are especially susceptible to contracting the infection due to the immaturity of their immune systems.
- Infections, or any ailments, clear up faster when the body is at rest and not under stress. Therefore, sleep and a well-balanced nutrition at home will make Stephanie feel better sooner.

Without medication, impetigo is contagious until the sores go away which can take anywhere from two to four weeks. If the patient takes oral antibiotics however, the infection is no longer contagious 24-48 hours after beginning treatment. The amount of time it takes for healing is also accelerated with the sores clearing up in 2-5 days.

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