

# Chickenpox

## DISEASE:<sup>21</sup>

**Chickenpox (Varicella)** is a common childhood disease. It is usually mild but it can be serious, especially in young infants and adults.

## TRANSMISSION:<sup>21</sup>

Chickenpox is highly contagious. It spreads from person to person by direct contact or by droplets from an infected person when he coughs or sneezes. It can also spread indirectly through articles freshly soiled by droplets or fluid from the blisters of an infected person.

## SIGNS & SYMPTOMS:<sup>21</sup>

An infected person usually has a fever, together with red spots on the body and face. The spots appear over a few days and progress to blisters which eventually burst, dry up and form crusts before healing. These spots are usually itchy and may leave scars when scratched.

## POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:<sup>21</sup>

- Skin infection
- Dehydration
- Brain damage from encephalitis
- Pneumonia





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