

Q. What is the OTC lice treatments failure rate?

- A.** This is very variable and depends mainly on the following:
- Where you live: scientific studies have shown that in some areas and regions head lice are resistant to many OTC treatments.
 - If your child has already been treated with the product many times: scientific studies have shown that OTC treatments don't work very well on children who have been treated many times with them.
 - How you apply the product: for OTC treatments, you need to strictly follow the directions of the manufacturer.

Q. How long can you reuse OTC lice treatments?

- A.** It depends if you see results or not.
- If your child has head lice and you apply an OTC lice treatment with success, and then your child gets infested again a few weeks or months later, you can apply the treatment again; only make sure to read instructions on the bottle to see if the product once opened will still be effective if reused.
 - But if you apply the OTC treatment with no result (which means your child still has head lice after the treatment), you should be very careful. Manufacturers of chemical lice treatments and lice shampoos will often recommend not applying their product more than twice if you see no results.

! If your child keeps being infested with head lice, you should not keep on applying OTC treatments, as they can have dangerous side-effects and be harmful for your child, and/or contribute to increase the resistance of head lice to these products.

Q. What to do when OTC lice treatments fail?

- A.** If you have applied a head lice shampoo or an OTC treatment that failed, first make sure that you have followed EXACTLY the directions of the manufacturer of the product. If not, then apply a second time (read directions to see how long after the first application you can safely repeat the treatment) following directions exactly. Then if it fails again, stop using this product and consult with your doctor or use a good home remedy.



Q. How to treat head lice while pregnant?

- A.** If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, make sure you don't use OTC treatments or medicated shampoos. Natural treatments are not all safe either. If you have patience the best treatment is using tweezers or your fingers to remove adult lice, and using nit combs to remove all nits. But if you really want to apply a treatment, the best thing to do is check with your doctor first.

Q. Can you use head lice sprays on beds and sofas?

- A.** You should not use lice sprays on sofas and beds because they contain substances that are toxic for humans and especially children. If you think that there are hairs with lice on them in the bed or on the sofa, simply change your bedding and vacuum the couch.

