

Information regarding Molluscum/water warts (mizuibo:水いぼ)

Molluscum contagiosum is a skin infection that is caused by the molluscum contagiosum virus.

The lesions may be flesh-coloured, white, translucent or yellow. It is usually asymptomatic, but highly contagious. It is common in school-age children, and is spread by skin-to-skin contact to oneself and to others. Isolation is not indicated, however, children with visible lesions should be excluded from close contact sports. It is not spread in pool water, so students can participate in swimming but they should avoid making direct skin contact (the affected area) with others and shouldn't share towels/floats. If the wart is wet it needs to be covered by waterproof plaster before swimming. Wash whole body well after swimming.

Cases in healthy children resolve spontaneously in about 18 months. Children with atopic eczema are more susceptible. To avoid spreading to other children, please seek advice from a dermatologist.

Please see the following website for up-to-date information concerning this illness:
<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/molluscum-contagiosum/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

If you have trouble accessing these websites or would like any further information please contact the School Nurses:

Ayako Hashimoto, Mariko Toyoshi & Arisa Inoue – nurses@bst.ac.jp
Shibuya Medical Room – 03 5467 4366
Showa Medical Room – 03 3411 4213

Best regards

The British School in Tokyo
Health & Safety Office