

Treatment Recommendations for Head Lice

Treatment	Number of Applications	Availability	Cost
Permethrin lotion (1%) Brands: Nix	1 application May apply a second time if live lice are noted 9 – 10 days after initial treatment.	Over the Counter	\$
Pyrethrin-based Products Brands: RID, A-200, Barc, Clear, InnoGel Plus, Pronto, R&C, Tisit, Tegrin-LT, assorted generic products	1 applications May apply a second time if live lice are noted 9 – 10 days after initial treatment Do not use if allergic to chrysanthemums or ragweed.	Over the Counter	\$
Malathion (0.5%) Brands: Ovide	1 application Prescriber may suggest a second application if live lice are noted 7 – 9 days after initial treatment.	Prescription required	\$\$\$\$
Benzyl alcohol (5%) Brands: Ulesfia	1 application Prescriber may suggest retreatment at 9-10 days to kill any newly hatched lice	Prescription required	\$\$-\$\$\$\$ ^b
Spinosad suspension (0.9%)	1 application Prescribe may suggest a second application if live lice are noted 7 days after initial treatment.	Prescription required	\$\$\$\$
Ivermectin lotion (0.5%) Brands: Sklice	Single use	Prescription required	\$\$\$\$
Ivermectin (oral) Brands: Stromectol	Oral medication 200 mcg/kg Single dose with second dose after 9-10 days	Prescription required Not evaluated by the FDA as a pediculocide	\$\$\$\$

* \$= ≤\$25; \$\$= \$26; \$\$\$= \$100-\$199; \$\$\$\$= \$200-\$299.

^bCost varies by length of hair, which impact number of units of product required.

Source: American Academy of Pediatrics. [Pediculosis Capitis]. In: Kimberlin, DW, ed. *Red Book: 2018-2021 Report of the Committee on Infectious Disease*. 31th ed. Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics; 2018: [607-612].