

DRYDEN FAMILY MEDICINE
Nationally Certified Patient Centered Medical Home
Nationally Certified in Diabetes Care
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Permethrin: Tick/Mosquito Protection

What is Permethrin?

Permethrin is an insecticide and repellent that can be used on clothing or camping equipment to reduce the risk of mosquito or tick bites. It can be used in addition to DEET as extra protection when the risk of exposure is high and other protective measures may not be sufficient. It should not be applied to skin.

How do I treat my clothing with Permethrin?

If you find it necessary to use a permethrin-containing product on your clothing, the following recommendations for proper use will minimize the risk of adverse reactions:

TREAT CLOTHING ONLY-DO NOT APPLY TO SKIN. If you accidentally get the product on your skin immediately wash with soap and water.

Apply to clothing in a well ventilated outdoor area, protected from the wind.

Only spray permethrin-containing products on the outer surface of clothing and shoes before you put them on - do not apply to clothing while it is being worn.

Only spray enough product to lightly moisten the outer surface of the fabric causing a slight color change or darkening; do not saturate clothing.

Read the application instructions carefully and do not exceed recommended spraying times.

Pay special attention while treating socks, trouser cuffs, and shirt cuffs to ensure complete coverage.

Hang the treated clothing outdoors and allow to dry for at least 2 hours (4 hours under humid conditions) before wearing.

Do not treat clothing more than once every two weeks. Launder treated clothing, separately from other clothing, at least once before retreating.

Permethrin treated clothing can remain effective for 2 weeks or more.

Treated clothing should only be worn when needed and then placed in a separate bag when not in use.

