

**Children's Health Minute
"Checking Out Cuts and Scratches"**

Air Dates: Week of January 22, 2007

Dr. Hellerstedt: Cuts and scratches are a part of growing up. Still – it's important to make sure all breaks in the skin are properly treated.

Hi, I'm Dr. John Hellerstedt with the Children's Health Minute -- connecting families with Children's Medicaid and CHIP.

Every break in the skin should be thoroughly washed with soap and water as soon as possible after it occurs. This is your child's best protection against infection. Antibiotic ointment and clean bandages can be applied after cleaning the wound.

Tetanus infection is always a risk when a cut occurs, so check now to make sure your children are up to date on all their immunizations.

A cut that becomes red or swollen is most likely infected, so call your child's doctor without delay.

Announcer: Call toll-free 1-877-KIDS NOW to apply or when it's time to renew your CHIP or Children's Medicaid. Six months of coverage for all your children costs just 50 dollars or less, but most families pay little or nothing. That's 1-877-KIDS NOW.