NT Health Fact sheet

Routine cleaning guide to prevent scabies for residential facilities

Scabies can spread through linen (clothes, towels and bedding) and soft furniture

- Wash linen **as often as you can**, or the day after a client's 1st and 2nd scabies treatment (7-14 days apart).
- Wear gloves when handling contaminated linen.
- Wash in hot water **over 50°C for at least 10 minutes**. For items that cannot be washed, place them in a plastic bag for 8 days.
- If there is no hot water, wash in cold water and dry in a dryer on high heat for at least 10 minutes. If there is no dryer, dry items in direct sun. Place mattresses and pillows in direct sun.
- Vacuum floors and any soft furniture (couches). Dispose the vacuum bag outside the building into a bin.









