

# Wound Care Tips For Parents: Properly Treating Children's Minor Cuts And Scrapes

(NAPSA)—Warmer weather and longer days give rise to great outdoor fun like running, biking, in-line skating and skateboarding, but also increase the chances of sustaining cuts and scrapes. In fact, according to the National Program for Playground Safety, over 200,000 children are injured on America's playgrounds each year. If not cared for immediately, even minor wounds can become infected and take longer to heal.

A new national survey conducted by Roper ASW and sponsored by Pfizer, makers of Neosporin antibiotic ointment, found that 75 percent of American adults, don't know how to properly treat a minor wound. Furthermore, many believe, incorrectly, that air-drying is the best way to promote healing.

Take this quiz to test your knowledge of the best way to treat your child's cuts and scrapes:

1. When your child gets a minor scrape or cut on the playground, you should do the following: a. Clean wound with soap and water and let it air dry; b. Clean wound with soap and water and cover with bandage; c. Clean wound with soap and water, apply antibiotic ointment and cover with bandage.

2. Leaving a child's wound to air dry can: a. Allow wounds to heal faster; b. Put skin at further risk for damage; c. Prevent skin from scabbing.

3. Minor playground scrapes should be treated with antibiotic ointment: a. Occasionally, based on depth of wound; b. Never, unless heavy bleeding is taking place; c. Every time they occur.

With thousands of children and adults expected to incur minor wounds this warm weather sea-



**When fun on the playground leads to cuts and scrapes, remember properly dressing and medicating wounds helps them heal better and faster.**

son, consumers are encouraged to follow the "3Cs" of proper wound care—three simple steps when caring for minor wounds:

✓ **Clean** the affected area with soap and water to remove germs, dirt and small stones

✓ **Check** for severity of wound; check daily for signs of infection

✓ **Coat** with an antibiotic ointment, such as Neosporin, to create a moist, healing environment

Neosporin is the #1 doctor recommended brand for infection protection, used for more than 40 years. It is the topical antibiotic choice of pediatricians, family practitioners, general practitioners and internists. To receive a free copy of the American Academy of Pediatrics and Pfizer First Aid Sheet, which includes tips on treating minor wounds, call Pfizer Consumer Healthcare at 800-223-0182.

Answers: 1. c; 2. b; 3. c.