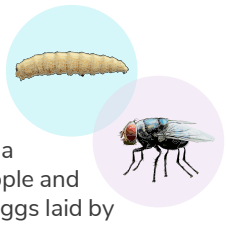
What is New World screwworm?



New World screwworm (NWS) is a maggot that eats living flesh of people and animals. The maggots come from eggs laid by a New World screwworm fly. Flies lay eggs in open cuts or wounds.

To prevent NWS, keep cuts or wounds clean and covered as best you can.

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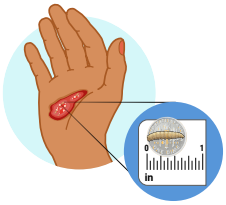
Signs and Symptoms of New World screwworm

- Maggots in a wound or sore
- A painful or stinky wound that won't heal
- A feeling of movement or itching in a wound



Get medical help right away if you see these signs. Don't try to remove maggots yourself.

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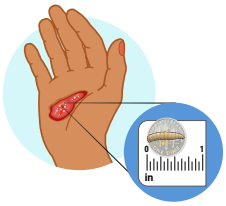

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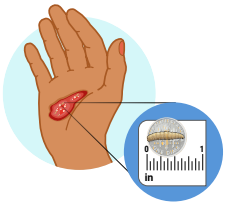

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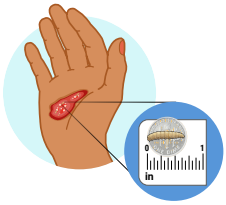

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