Appendix A - Protocol for Scabies Investigation

Does the patient/resident/client have symptom presentation consistent with scabies infection?

- Determine appropriate course of action for differential diagnosis (i.e., Dermatologist)
  - NO
  - Consider Atypical Scabies
    - NO
    - Symptom severity has decreased within two (2) weeks of initial treatment
      - YES
      - Discontinue isolation and contact precautions 24 hours after completion of treatment if mild case.
        - If symptoms are severe or cover entire body, continue with contact precautions until successful treatment has been achieved. May need 2 or more treatments. If no new burrows or rashes, can discontinue isolation and contact precautions 4 days after treatment.
        - YES
        - Treat cases and close contacts within the same 24-hour period with a scabicide.
          - Apply scabicide to every surface of the body from the neck to the soles of the feet.
          - Change and launder linens, towels, pyjamas, housecoats, etc. before and after scabicide application.
          - Seal non-washable items in a plastic bag at room temperature for seven (7) days or place in a freezer for 72 hours
          - Initiate contact investigation and search for additional cases
            - YES
            - Are skin scrapings positive for scabies?
              - NO
              - Proceed with scabicide treatment if alternate diagnoses are ruled out and symptom presentation is consistent with scabies infestation
              - YES
              - Consider alternate diagnosis
                - NO