

DOWNLOAD PDF THE HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS (HPV INFECTIONS AND GENITAL WARTS

Chapter 1 : Human papillomavirus (HPV): Treatment, symptoms, and causes

Each HPV virus has its own number or type. The term "papilloma" refers to a kind of wart that results from some HPV types. About 60 of the HPV types cause warts on areas like the hands or feet.

Lingering infection with high-risk HPV types, such as types 16, 18, 31, and 45, can favor the development of cancer. Furthermore, HPV can induce a tumorigenic process through integration into a host genome which is associated with alterations in DNA copy number. Normally, p53 acts to prevent cell growth, and promotes cell death in the presence of DNA damage. In short, p53 is a tumor-suppressor protein that arrests the cell cycle and prevents cell growth and survival when DNA damage occurs. Thus, inactivation of p53 by E6 can promote unregulated cell division, cell growth, and cell survival, characteristics of cancer. E6 also has a close relationship with the cellular protein E6-associated protein E6-AP, which is involved in the ubiquitin ligase pathway, a system that acts to degrade proteins. E6-AP binds ubiquitin to the p53 protein, thereby flagging it for proteosomal degradation. Studies have also shown a link between a wide range of HPV types and squamous cell carcinoma of the skin. In such cases, in vitro studies suggest that the E6 protein of the HPV virus may inhibit apoptosis induced by ultraviolet light. Because the process of transforming normal cervical cells into cancerous ones is slow, cancer occurs in people having been infected with HPV for a long time, usually over a decade or more persistent infection. Sexually transmitted HPVs are found in a large percentage of anal cancers. Throat cancers associated with HPV have been estimated to have increased from 0. Moreover, findings indicate this type of cancer is much more prevalent in men than in women, something that needs to be further explored. The International Agency for Research on Cancer has found that people with lung cancer were significantly more likely to have several high-risk forms of HPV antibodies compared to those who did not have lung cancer. The virus, unchecked by the immune system, causes the overproduction of keratin by skin cells, resulting in lesions resembling warts or cutaneous horns. Low-risk HPVs cause warts on or around the genitals. High-risk HPVs cause cancer and consist of about a dozen identified types. Type 16 and 18 are two that are responsible for causing most of HPV-caused cancers. It does not spread via common items like toilet seats. HPV may still be transmitted even after lesions are treated and no longer visible or present. However, the lack of appearance does not rule out asymptomatic latent infection, as the virus has proven to be capable of hiding for decades. Genital infections[edit] Since cervical and female genital infection by specific HPV types is highly associated with cervical cancer, those types of HPV infection have received most of the attention from scientific studies. HPV infections in that area are transmitted primarily via sexual activity. Hernandez tested the genitals and dominant hand of each person in 25 heterosexual couples every other month for an average of seven months. Winer found all 14 fingertip samples from virgin women negative at the start of her fingertip study. However, as non-sexual transmission of HPV by other means is not uncommon, this could not be definitively proven. In , a group tested Australian Red Cross blood samples from healthy male donors for HPV, and subsequently found DNA of one or more strains of the virus in 15 8. As such, it remains to be determined whether HPV can or cannot be transmitted via blood.

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Chapter 2 : Laboratory diagnosis of human papillomavirus virus infection in female genital tract

*Genital warts: Before HPV vaccines were introduced, roughly , to , women and men were affected by genital warts caused by HPV every year. * Also, about one in sexually active adults in the U.S. has genital warts at any given time.*

HPV is a sexually transmitted virus. How common is oropharyngeal human papilloma virus HPV infection of the throat? A recent study found that 7 percent of Americans 14 to 69 years old are infected with oropharyngeal HPV. The same study found that the prevalence has increased significantly over the past three decades, and that more men than women have oropharyngeal HPV infection. Infection with HPV occurs in about 1 percent of men and women. How is oropharyngeal human papilloma virus HPV acquired? Evidence strongly suggests that oropharyngeal HPV is predominantly transmitted by sexual contact. An increase in oral sex is suspected as the cause of the increase in the prevalence of oropharyngeal HPV infection, although several sexual behaviors seem to be related to HPV prevalence. The risk of infection increases with an increasing number of lifetime or recent sexual partners for any type of sexual behavior vaginal sex, oral sex. With 20 or more lifetime sexual partners, the prevalence of oropharyngeal HPV infection reaches 20 percent. Smokers are also at greater risk than nonsmokers, with current heavy smokers at particularly high risk. What are the signs and symptoms of oropharyngeal human papilloma virus HPV infection? Most people with oropharyngeal HPV infections have no symptoms and therefore do not realize that they are infected and can transmit the virus to a partner. What are the consequences of oropharyngeal human papilloma virus HPV infection? Tonsillar HPV infection can cause oropharyngeal cancer. An increase in the incidence of oropharyngeal cancer has paralleled the increased prevalence of tonsillar HPV infection. However, the vast majority of people with tonsillar HPV infections do not develop cancer because the subtypes of HPV with which they are infected are not linked to development of cancer. Some oropharyngeal cancers are not related to HPV infection, but rather with tobacco and alcohol use. People with HPV-positive oropharyngeal cancers tend to be younger and are less likely to be smokers and drinkers. Are there any signs that are specific for human papilloma virus HPV -positive oropharyngeal cancer? The first sign is often having trouble with swallowing. Other potential signs and symptoms of oral cancers are:

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Chapter 3 : HPV | What is HPV | Human Papillomavirus | CDC

More than varieties of human papillomavirus (HPV) exist. Different types of HPV infection cause warts on different parts of your body. For example, some types of HPV infection cause plantar warts on the feet, while others cause warts that mostly appear on the face or neck.

At the same time, these techniques let us know if the virus is benign or related to cancer being able to establish the risk of the infection. Most of our members have been trained in our country and abroad and were awarded for their research projects and medical journals in International Medical Congresses. One of our departments in our center is oriented to research in Clinical Pharmacology, working for the pharmaceutical industry with national and international laboratories, contributing to the development of new drugs. As a result of our work, we have successfully treated thousands of patients to date. We are continuously pushing ourselves to find new cures for diseases taking them as a challenge. We have been working for more than three years in new therapeutic approaches to treat Human Papillomavirus in its different stages of infection. These techniques were designed after several years of using classic therapeutic procedures such as the use of trichloroacetic acid, podophyllin, interferons, podophyllotoxin, electrocautery, leep, others, that produce regular results and suffering for the patients. The main goal of our medical team is the treatment of human papillomavirus in clinical phase, and early stages. Early detection and treatment of human papillomavirus allowed us to perform new therapeutic approaches that will be communicated in medical congresses and published shortly. HPV Medical Center main goal: Causal relation between HPV and anus, penis, vaginal, vulvar, mouth and other types of cancer. HPV virus carries genetic information. Molecular biology techniques deciphered the genetic code of most HPV virus and its relation with aggressiveness and human body locations of the infections. DNA is like a program that every cell of the human body has. It contains all the information that give us our physical appearance, individual and unique characteristics. More than types of HPV have been discovered. Papovavirus are divided in two genera, type A and type B. Type A papovavirus do not induce infections in other species than humans and can not be cultivate. Their only host are humans. Type B papovavirus does not affect humans and can be cultivate. They are important as a laboratory model. Human papilloma virus or HPV virus are characterized by having a small diameter. Viral particles are identical by the electron microscope view, they differ only in their DNA. More than hundred types of HPV have been discovered and new types are being discovered continually. Many of the subtypes found are related to infections in male and female genitalia. HPV virus infections are related with the genesis or development of some carcinomas of the female genitals, penis, anus, mouth, cutaneous carcinomas associated or not with skin warts. Depending on the subtype, HPV is a cancer cause. HPV genital infection is considered a sexually transmitted disease. Other transmission routes are possible, also the spread of mother to child during birth. The third stage or clinical stage permits us to see HPV lesions by the naked eye. The certain diagnose most be done by molecular biology. Using molecular pathology techniques, the HPV test, unlike the Pap smear, allows us to have a precise diagnosis of the Human Papillomavirus. In other words, there is no possibility of false negatives if the extraction is correctly performed. This molecular biology technique, which we prefer and recommend, also gives us the possibility to find out which type of HPV the patient actually has. The importance of this lies in the fact that there are tumor viruses, in other words, viruses related to cancer such as: HPV 16, 18, 31, 33, 35, 39, 45, 51, 52, 56, 58, 59 and 68, among others. There are other viruses related to benign warts which may result unsightly or contagious. Unlike PCR, this technique does not report on the infectious type of viruses and it is only sensitive to the most frequently found viruses. These one are classified in: HPV Human Papillomavirus , can be considered a transforming agent thus called tumoral viruses. Tumoral viruses such as some types of HPV cause the transformation of a normal into a cancerous cell. Some HPV oncoproteins play an important role in this transformation. Each type of HPV has his one and individual genetic characteristics. HPV or Human Papillomavirus is a virus that infects humans only. HPV or human papillomavirus has many

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genetic variants and there are more than hundred types discovered by molecular pathology. HPV or human papillomavirus can induce the transformation of a normal cell into a cancer cell. HPV or Human Papillomavirus is fundamentally related to cervical, vagina, vulva, anus, penis, mouth, airways, skin and others types of cancer.

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Chapter 4 : HPV infection - Symptoms and causes - Mayo Clinic

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a viral infection that is passed between people through skin-to-skin contact. There are more than varieties of HPV, 40 of which are passed through sexual contact.

Prevention Human papillomavirus is the most common sexually transmitted infection. Most sexually active men and women being exposed to the virus at some point during their lifetime. The virus is common in the United States and there are approximately 14 million newly diagnosed cases of human papillomavirus HPV annually. There are different types of HPV. Some can lead to genital warts and others can cause some types of cancer. Each year, around 19, women and 12, men in the U. Vaccines can protect against infection. In this article, we will explain what HPV is, how it is passed between people, any symptoms that could occur, and information about treatment, vaccines, and prevention. Fast facts on HPV Here are some key points about human papillomavirus. More detail and supporting information is in the main article. Most sexually active men and women will contract the HPV virus at some point during their lifetime. HPV can be spread through oral, vaginal, or anal sex. It can result in genital warts and some types of cancer. Sometimes, HPV can be transmitted during birth to an infant causing genital or respiratory system infections. There is no cure for HPV but safe and effective vaccinations are recommended at the age of 11 to 12 years. Treatment Salicylic acid is used to treat some warts. Different types of HPV will have different symptoms. HPV viruses can lead to genital warts and cancer. There is no treatment for the virus, but the symptoms can be treated. Prevention is through the HPV vaccine. Warts Warts that result from HPV will often resolve without treatment. However, there are medications that can be applied to the skin to remove the wart itself; these include over-the-counter OTC salicylic acid for common warts. Podophyllin chemical applied by a doctor Imiquimod Aldara, Zyclara Trichloroacetic acid chemical applied by a doctor In certain situations, surgical interventions may be necessary and include: This method uses liquid nitrogen to freeze the abnormal areas. Electrical current is used to burn the abnormal areas. A light beam removes unwanted tissue. This is rarely used due to the high risk of side effects and cost. Surgical removal It is important to speak with a doctor about which treatment is best, depending on the type and location of the wart being treated. It is also important to note that, although warts and cellular changes may be removed or resolved, the virus can remain in the body and can be passed to others. There is no treatment to remove the virus from the body. Cancer Routine Pap tests and other types of screening can provide an early diagnosis, if cancer develops. Measures can be taken to treat any cancer and prevent it from developing. Symptoms HPV may not cause symptoms at once, but they can appear years later. Some types can lead to warts, while others can cause cancer. Warts Common symptoms of some types of HPV are warts, especially genital warts. Genital warts may appear as a small bump, cluster of bumps, or stem-like protrusions. They commonly affect the vulva in women, or possibly the cervix, and the penis or scrotum in men. They may also appear around the anus and in the groin. They can range in size and appearance and be large, small, flat, or cauliflower shaped, and may be white or flesh tone. Other warts associated with HPV include common warts, plantar, and flat warts. Common warts - rough, raised bumps most commonly found on the hands, fingers, and elbows. Plantar warts - described as hard, grainy growths on the feet; they most commonly appear on the heels or balls of the feet. Flat warts - generally affect children, adolescents, and young adults; they appear as flat-topped, slightly raised lesions that are darker than normal skin color and are most commonly found on the face, neck, or areas that have been scratched. Cancer Other types of HPV can increase the risk of developing cancer. These cancers include cancer of the cervix, vulva, vagina, penis, anus, and oropharynx, or the base of the tongue and tonsils. It may take years or decades for cancer to develop.

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Chapter 5 : Oropharyngeal Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Infection | Cleveland Clinic

(Other types of HPV cause common warts like hand warts and plantar warts on the feet – but these aren't sexually transmitted.) Genital HPV infections are very, very common. In fact, most people who have sex get the HPV at some point in their lives.

HPV, which is short for human papilloma virus, is the virus that causes warts. The most common types of wart are: Common warts *Verruca vulgaris*, which typically appear on your face or hands as raised lumps with a roughened, almost cauliflower-like appearance Plantar warts *Verruca plantaris*. They can be irritating or painful because they often occur on the parts of the sole or heel where your feet experience most pressure while walking Flat warts *Verruca plana*. These usually affect the hands or face but they can appear on other parts of the body, e. They are slightly raised but have a flattened top, and are either a bit darker than your normal skin, or have a reddish-brown tinge Genital warts *Condylomata acuminata*. These are transmitted via sexual contact and are in fact the most common type of sexually transmitted disease. They can be very small or they may grow into large bumps, or even have a stalk-like appearance. Genital warts can appear in, on or around the penis, scrotum, vulva, cervix, vagina, anus, or even occasionally in the mouth or throat, depending on what form the sexual contact has taken Some people become infected with genital HPV without developing warts or even having any idea that they are infected – the virus can remain undetected within the body for up to two years, before being eliminated by the immune system. However, it is still possible for them to pass HPV on to other sexual partners. There are two strains of genital HPV that cause cervical cancer in women instead of warts. In some cases, these two strains of HPV may also cause cancer in other areas such as the penis or anus. It does not cause symptoms in most cases, but can remain in the body for up to two years Over-the-counter remedies are available to treat common and plantar warts, and your doctor may also recommend certain prescription drugs for all types of warts Cervical cancer, which is usually caused by one of two HPV strains, does not cause any symptoms until it is quite advanced Women should have regular screening via Pap tests to detect the early signs of cervical cancer Types of Human Papillomavirus HPV Infection There are over one hundred different strains of HPV, each of which has a number. The virus enters the skin via tiny abrasions in its surface. Common warts are spread by coming into contact with an object that has been used by an infected person, such as a towel. You can catch plantar warts by walking barefoot on a damp or wet surface, typically somewhere that receives a lot of visitors like a public swimming pool. Children and teenagers are more at risk of common and plantar warts than older people. People who bite their fingernails are also at greater risk of developing common warts on broken areas of skin next to the nail. People who handle meat and work in abattoirs are at greater risk of developing warts. In general, you are more at risk of catching HPV of whatever type if your immune system is weakened in some way, for example if you have HIV or AIDS, or if you are on immunosuppressant drugs. Symptoms of Human Papillomavirus HPV Infection Since they appear on the outside of the body, common and plantar warts are fairly easy to recognize. They can occasionally cause irritation or pain, particularly in the case of plantar warts which are subject to pressure when you walk. The majority of people who catch a genital HPV infection do not actually develop any symptoms; the immune system fights off the infection before symptoms have the chance to develop. If you develop warts as a result of a genital HPV infection, the warts can appear in any part of the body that has come into contact with an infected person: They may vary in size and appearance, sometimes forming singly, sometimes in groups. Diagnosing Human Papillomavirus HPV Infection If you think you have common, plantar or flat warts, your doctor will be able to confirm this from giving you a physical examination. A vinegar solution test. When dabbed onto an infected area, this turns white in contrast to the surrounding skin A DNA test that recognizes viral DNA A Pap test short for Papanicolaou test, after the Greek doctor who invented it. A sample of cells is taken from your cervix and are examined under a microscope, to see whether any of the cells show abnormalities that indicate cervical cancer or precancer Treatment Options for Human

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Papillomavirus HPV Infection If you have warts, they may cure themselves eventually without your having to do anything. There are several over-the-counter remedies for common and plantar warts – these contain salicylic acid, the same active compound that is present in aspirin. They dissolve the wart away, layer by layer. You should not use salicylic acid-containing medication for genital warts. Your doctor may prescribe Podofilox or trichloroacetic acid for genital warts – both of these are administered topically. Another common topical treatment for genital warts is Imiquimod. This is an immunostimulant that helps the body fight off infection. It can also be used for hard-to-treat common warts. You should avoid borrowing towels and facecloths, especially from people who have common warts themselves. You should also avoid nail biting, for the same reason. You can help prevent plantar warts by avoiding damp, frequently-visited places like public swimming baths, locker rooms and showers – if you do go there, wear a pair of rubber pool shoes or flipflops. Since the virus likes damp conditions, it also helps if you keep your feet dry and clean, and change your socks every day. The risk of genital warts increases the more sexual partners you have. There is a vaccine on the market that protects against most strains of genital HPV, including those that can cause cancer of the cervix. The vaccine is called Gardasil and is recommended as a routine inoculation for girls and young women. Women should also get regular screening for cervical cancer, via a Pap test. This will help identify precancerous cells.

Coping with Human Papillomavirus HPV Infection Most warts cure themselves eventually but there are some effective over-the-counter remedies available to treat common and plantar warts. You should also avoid scratching your warts or biting your nails, as this will make them more likely to spread. If you have genital warts you should ideally tell partners or potential partners about this. Use a condom and restrict your sexual contact to areas of the body that can be protected by the condom. However, you should bear in mind that a condom is not percent effective at preventing HPV infection. Try to eat healthily in order to boost your immune system and help it fight off the infection.

Where to Get More Information:

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Chapter 6 : HPV treatment GENITAL WARTS

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common viral infection of the reproductive tract. Most sexually active women and men will be infected at some point in their lives and some may be repeatedly infected. The peak time for acquiring infection for both women and men is shortly after becoming.

Related Pages HPV is short for human papillomavirus. HPV is a group of more than related viruses. Some other HPV types can lead to cancer. Men can also get penile HPV cancer. But there are vaccines that can prevent infection with the types of HPV that most commonly cause cancer. Learn six reasons to get HPV vaccine for your child in this listicle. How do people get HPV? HPV is transmitted through intimate skin-to-skin contact. You can get HPV by having vaginal, anal, or oral sex with someone who has the virus. It is most commonly spread during vaginal or anal sex. HPV is so common that nearly all men and women get it at some point in their lives. HPV can be passed even when an infected person has no signs or symptoms. You can develop symptoms years after being infected, making it hard to know when you first became infected. In most cases, HPV goes away on its own and does not cause any health problems. But when HPV does not go away, it can cause health problems like genital warts and cancer. Genital warts usually appear as a small bump or groups of bumps in the genital area. They can be small or large, raised or flat, or shaped like a cauliflower. A healthcare provider can usually diagnose warts by looking at the genital area. HPV cancers include cancer of the cervix, vulva, vagina, penis, or anus. HPV infection can also cause cancer in the back of the throat, including the base of the tongue and tonsils.

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Chapter 7 : Human papillomavirus infection - Wikipedia

Human papilloma virus (HPV), commonly known as the virus that causes genital warts and cervical cancer in women, is increasingly being recognized now as a cause of infections that colonize the back of the mouth (throat or oropharynx), including the tongue base and tonsils, and potentially a cause of cancer of the head and neck.

Female pelvic anatomy What is human papilloma virus HPV? HPV stands for human papilloma virus. It is a very common virus. There are about types of HPV that affect different parts of the body. About 30 types of HPV can affect the genitals – including the vulva, vagina, cervix, penis and scrotum – as well as the rectum and anus. Of those, about 14 types are considered "high risk," for leading to cervical cancer. Male pelvic anatomy How common is HPV? HPV that affects the genitals is very common. Approximately 79 million Americans are currently infected with HPV, with roughly 14 million people becoming newly infected each year. Most men and women – about 80 percent of sexually active people – are infected with HPV at some point in their lives, but most people never know they have the virus. Can men get HPV? In men, genital warts most often appear on the penis, on the scrotum, in or around the anus, or on the groin. For men, HPV infection – including those that can cause cellular changes – cause no symptoms, so diagnosing HPV in men is difficult. The diagnosis of HPV in men is made when external genital warts are seen. Since there is no treatment for HPV that has no symptoms, most men with the infection are not treated. Sometimes, a healthcare provider can see small warts that might have otherwise gone unnoticed. In general, HPV infection does not place a man at a much higher risk for health problems. However, HPV prevention is still important for men, as the virus has been linked to uncommon cancers such as penile, anal, and head and neck. How is HPV related to cervical cancer? Certain strains of HPV can cause changes in the cells of the cervix, a condition called cervical dysplasia. If it is not treated, dysplasia can advance to cervical cancer. HPV is almost always the cause of cervical cancer. However, just because a woman has HPV or cervical dysplasia does not necessarily mean she will get cervical cancer. Regular Pap tests are the best protection against cervical cancer. The test detects pre-cancerous changes and cervical cancer. Cervical cancer is almost always preventable or cured if pre-cancerous changes are detected and treated early, before cancer develops. Before age 30, HPV infection is usually transient gets better on its own. By age 30, finding HPV during Pap screening can help determine how often to be screened. The absence of high-risk HPV types usually means that a woman is at low risk for developing cervical changes related to the risk of cervical cancer. In this case, the period between Pap test screenings is usually five years for most women. If a woman tests positive for high-risk HPV types, her healthcare provider will perform more frequent Pap tests to check for any cell changes that might be pre-cancerous or that need to be treated. What is cervical cancer? Cervical cancer is a condition in which the cells in the lining of the cervix – the narrow, outer end of the uterus – change and grow very fast, producing a grouping of cells called a tumor. This condition usually develops over time. It can affect women of any age, but it is most common in women in their mids. A type of virus, called HPV, is the cause of most cases of cervical cancer. How do you get human papilloma virus HPV? Contact includes vaginal, anal, and oral sex. Some types of HPV cause genital warts , which are hard, rough lumps that grow on the skin. Anyone who is sexually active can get HPV and genital warts. In women, genital warts most often appear in the following areas of the body: On the vulva the outer female genital area In or around the vagina In or around the anus On the groin where the genital area meets the inner thigh On the cervix What are the symptoms of HPV? In many cases, HPV causes no symptoms. When they do occur, the most common symptom is warts in the genital area. Signs of infection can appear weeks, months, or even years after the person has been infected with the virus.

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Chapter 8 : Human papillomavirus (HPV) and cervical cancer

HPV is short for human papillomavirus. HPV is a group of more than related viruses. Each HPV virus in this large group is given a number which is called its HPV type. HPV is named for the warts (papillomas) some HPV types can cause. Some other HPV types can lead to cancer. Men and women can get.

What are the symptoms of human papillomavirus infection? According to the CDC, the warts associated with most HPV infections go away on their own without any signs or symptoms. As a result, that person may unknowingly pass HPV to sexual partners. These include genital warts and warts in the throat known as recurrent respiratory papillomatosis. HPV can also cause cervical cancer and other cancers of the genitals, head, neck, and throat. The types of HPV that cause warts are different from the types that cause cancer. Regular screenings can help diagnose HPV-related health problems earlier. This can improve outlook and increase chances of survival. What tests can detect human papillomavirus infection? Updated guidelines recommend that women have their first Pap test, or Pap smear, at age 21 and be tested for HPV at the same time, regardless of onset of sexual activity. After that, women 21 to 29 should have just a Pap test every three years. Regular Pap tests help to identify abnormal cells in women. These can signal cervical cancer or other HPV-related problems. Women ages 30 to 65 should then be screened every five years with Pap and HPV tests at the same time. If you have one of the 15 strains of HPV that can lead to cancer, your doctor may want to monitor you for cervical changes. You may need to get a Pap test more frequently. Cervical changes that lead to cancer often take 10 or more years to develop, and HPV infections often go away on their own in one or two years without causing cancer. You may want to follow a course of watchful waiting instead of undergoing treatment for the abnormal or precancerous cells resulting from an infection. Your doctor may also want to do follow-up testing with colposcopy. This procedure uses an instrument a colposcope to examine your vagina and cervix more closely to look for abnormal areas. If you have new warts or notice other changes after sexual activity, contact your doctor for an assessment. How is human papillomavirus infection treated? Most cases of HPV go away on their own, so there is no treatment for the infection itself. Instead, your doctor will likely want to have you come in for repeat testing in six months or a year to see if the HPV infection persists and if any cell changes have developed that need further follow-up. For HPV-related health issues like warts or cancer, treatment will be targeted to the specific issue. To treat genital warts, contact your doctor.

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Chapter 9 : STD Facts - Human papillomavirus (HPV)

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the name of a very common, highly contagious group of viruses that can infect the genital and oral areas of any body. "Low risk" types of genital HPV can cause genital warts, and "high risk" types can cause abnormal cells that could lead to certain types of cancers (cervical).

Every year in BC alone, approximately women get cervical cancer and approximately 40 women die from the disease. There are over different types of HPV, and more than 40 of these are sexually transmitted. The genital types of HPV are most commonly spread through skin to skin genital contact with an infected person. HPV can be transmitted during oral, vaginal and anal sex and through genital skin to skin contact penetration not necessary or by sharing toys. HPV is extremely contagious and any sexually active person can get it Most HPV infected people do not know they are infected no symptoms but can pass the virus to a sex partner Many HPV infected people will clear the infection on their own within 18 months but in some people the virus may remain dormant in the body and the symptoms can return Rarely, an infected person can pass it on to a baby during vaginal childbirth HPV tests and diagnosis Genital warts are diagnosed by visual inspection People with cervixes females are often diagnosed with high risk strains of HPV on the basis of abnormal Pap tests , therefore it is important for sexually active people to get regular Pap tests beginning at the age of Most people will continue screening every 3 years or as recommended by health professional until the age of Pap tests also called cervical screenings are used to screen for pre-cancerous changes in the cervix, most of which are related to HPV; they are not used exclusively as diagnosis tool. HPV treatment there is no cure for HPV, however most people with healthy immune systems will generally clear the infection on their own within 18 months treatments are directed towards the changes in skin or mucous membrane caused by HPV such as warts or pre-cancerous changes in the cervix cervical changes are closely monitored and if necessary abnormal cells can be destroyed or removed genital warts can be removed by treatments performed by a health care provider such as freezing or laser or by self applied medication. At ISHS, we can talk to you more about the treatment options available and provide LQN2 and prescriptions for topical treatments for you. Those who are already sexually active can still benefit from vaccination because they may not yet have HPV infection and are very unlikely to be infected with all types National Advisory Committee on Immunization. Please read below for more information on the different vaccinations available: In Canada it is currently indicated for people with cervixes aged years and people with penises aged The vaccine is indicated for girls and women aged 9 to 45 and for boys and men aged 9 to In Canada, Cervarix can help protect young women aged Cervarix does not offer any protection against the types of HPV connected to genital warts. Routine cervical cancer screening is still necessary for people with cervixes who have received vaccinations. If you do not qualify for a free vaccine, it is available through prescription for a fee. Many extended health care plans cover a portion of the cost. Clients wishing to be immunized with Gardasil 4 or 9 or Cervarix will be given a prescription to pick up their vaccine at a pharmacy and return for vaccination. Depending on age, 2 or 3 injections are needed to complete immunization series. Contact our clinics if you have any questions about HPV or immunizations. The British Columbia government offers a subsidized immunization program for grade 6 females and males ages at greater risk for HPV infection.