

HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS

Slang: “warts” “HPV”

DEFINITION

There are many types of HPV, including over 30 types that can be spread through sex. It can also be spread from mother to child during birth. HPV is a virus that sometimes causes genital warts. It is a cause of certain types of cervical, penile and anal cancers.



SYMPTOMS

Primary Stage – Small painless sore (chancres) where organism enters the body (genital, oral or rectal); the sore may be internal and go

unnoticed.

Secondary Stage – Rash that can involve

the palms and soles of feet; swollen lymph

glands, fever, and painless sores often found in

the mouth.

Latent Stage – Patient does not have symptoms.

This stage may last for years.

Late Stage – If left untreated can cause damage

to the brain or heart, blindness and/or death.

TREATMENT

Can be cured with antibiotic therapy.

SYPHILIS

Slang: “pox,” “bad blood”



DEFINITION

A sexually transmitted disease caused by a bacterium known as *Treponema pallidum* that may be transmitted sexually or from mother to child before or at the time of birth (congenital syphilis).

SYMPTOMS

Often none. Some types cause genital warts – soft fleshy bumps that vary in size on or around the penis, scrotum, vagina, anus or mouth. Warts usually don’t hurt, but may itch.

TREATMENT

No known cure. Warts should be treated by a doctor to monitor and reduce symptoms. Screening for cancer should be done often.



*Adapted by NYSDOH with permission from the MODOH

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GONORRHEA

Slang: “dose” “clap” “drip”

DEFINITION

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted disease that is most common in people ages 15 to 30; many of those infected with gonorrhea also have chlamydia. Gonorrhea is caused by a bacterium known as *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*.

CHLAMYDIA

Slang: “the clam” “goosey stuff”

DEFINITION

Chlamydia is the most common bacterial sexually transmitted disease in the country. It is caused by a bacterium known as *Chlamydia trachomatis* and is often without symptoms. Chlamydia is frequently diagnosed in teenagers and young adults.

SYMPTOMS

Males: Most infected men have symptoms which can include a milky discharge from the penis, a burning sensation upon urination, and sometimes swollen testicles.

Females: Most women have no symptoms. If symptoms are present, there is often a vaginal discharge and/or bleeding; low abdominal pain and/or painful urination.

Male/Female: Rectal: itching, pain and discharge with blood or pus. Oral: sore throat, swollen glands.

TREATMENT

Curable with antibiotic therapy. If not treated, can cause serious health problems.

SYMPTOMS

Males: Infected men commonly have no symptoms. If symptoms are present, there is often a watery or milky discharge from the penis and a burning sensation upon urination.

Females: Infected women usually show no symptoms. If symptoms are present, there is most often vaginal discharge and/or bleeding; low abdominal pain and painful urination.

Male/Female: Rectal: pain, itching and discharge with blood or pus.

TREATMENT

Curable with antibiotic therapy. If not treated can cause serious health problems.