



# FACTS

HIV/AIDS AND OTHER STDS				
	GENITAL HERPES	SYPHILIS	HEPATITIS B VIRUS (HBV)	HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV OR WARTS)
<b>How it's spread</b>	By touching an infected area (infected areas may not always be noticeable) or having unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse. Warning: Some people may be contagious even when they don't have symptoms.	Through unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex—and also through kissing if there is a lesion on the mouth.	Through unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex; through sharing contaminated needles or any behavior in which a person's mucous membranes are exposed to an infected person's blood, semen, vaginal secretions, or saliva. The chance of getting it through kissing is low.	Through unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse, or by touching or rubbing an infected area (infected areas may not always be noticeable).
<b>Treatment</b>	There is no cure. An antiviral drug can help the pain and itching and also reduce the frequency of recurrent outbreaks.	Antibiotic treatment can cure the disease if it's caught early, but medication can't undo damage already done. Both partners must be treated at the same time.	Most cases clear up within one to two months without treatment, during which time you should not drink alcohol until liver function returns to normal. Some people are contagious for the rest of their lives. A three-dose vaccine is now available.	There is no cure. Warts can be removed through medication or surgery, but even with such treatments, the virus stays in the body and can cause future outbreaks. A three-dose vaccine is now available.
<b>Possible consequences</b>	Recurrent sores (the virus lives in the nerve roots and keeps coming back). Passing herpes from mother to newborn is rare. However, an infant who gets herpes can become very ill, so some precautions are advisable.	Untreated, the symptoms will disappear, but the infection stays in the body and can progress into the third stage, damaging the brain, heart, and nervous system, and can cause death. Syphilis in women can seriously harm a developing fetus during pregnancy.	Chronic, persistent inflammation of the liver and later cirrhosis or cancer of the liver. If you are pregnant, your baby must be immunized at birth.	Increased risk of genital cancer for men and women. The most common form of cervical cancer in women is caused by some of these virus types.



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<b>Testing</b>	If symptoms are present, by visual exam or through examination of a swab from a lesion. There are also blood tests that can identify antibodies for the virus; however, most blood tests for herpes cannot distinguish between type 1 and type 2.	Blood test; swab sample from a sore or lesion.	Blood test; a three-dose vaccination is also available to protect against infection if it has not already occurred. There is also a combination three-dose vaccine for both hepatitis A and B.	If symptoms are present, through a visual exam. For women, with and without symptoms, who have an abnormal or ambiguous pap smear, a follow-up cervical swab DNA test can detect HPV infection on the cervix only. The FDA-approved DNA test can tell a woman if she has HPV, identify the type of HPV that she has, and tell her whether it is one associated with cervical cancer (not usually the same types of HPV that are associated with genital warts). The HPV test is not a reliable test for men.

**Don't try to diagnose yourself. If you have any of the following signs or symptoms, or you may have been exposed, go see a health care professional for proper diagnosis and treatment:**

- Odor from penis or vagina
- Foul-smelling discharge from penis or vagina
- Painful urination or defecation
- Blisters or sores on or near the mouth, vagina, penis, or anus
- Flu-like symptoms that don't go away
- Sore throat that doesn't go away
- Abdominal pain

**Remember: there are often no symptoms! A number of STIs have effective treatments. The sooner you are tested and begin treatment, the better. If you are having sexual intercourse, it is wise to have an exam after any unprotected intercourse, or at least every six months.**

**For answers or help, call, visit, email, or talk to:**

- Local health department
- Doctor or clinic
- Parent or other trusted adult
- CDC INFO: 1-800-232-4636 (English and Spanish; available 24/7)
- Hearing impaired hotline: 1-888-232-6348
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): <http://www.cdc.gov/>
- CDC e-mail address: [cdcinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:cdcinfo@cdc.gov)
- American Social Health Association: <http://www.ashaSTI.org/>

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