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MEANING

Soft, growth (like cauliflower) either singly or in clusters in and around the vagina, anus, grain, penis and/or septum. Genital warts are soft growths that appear on the genitals.

Genital warts are a sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by certain strains of the human papillomavirus (HPV). These skin growths can cause pain, discomfort, and itching. They are especially dangerous for women because some types of HPV can also cause cancer of the cervix and vulva.

HPV is the most prevalent of all STIs. This makes men and women who are sexually active vulnerable to complications of HPV, such as genital warts. In fact, approximately 360,000 people develop genital warts each year. Protection and treatment are essential in preventing this infection.

CAUSES

Most cases of genital warts are caused by HPV. And there are more than 70 types of HPV that specifically affect the genitals. The HPV virus is highly transmittable through skin-to-skin contact, which is why it is considered a STI.

In fact, HPV is so common that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says that most sexually active people get it at some point — the key difference is whether the virus leads to complications like genital warts.

Genital warts are caused by different strains of HPV that cause warts on your hands or other parts of the body that don't include the genital. A wart can't spread from someone's hand to the genitals, and vice versa.

Genital warts are transmitted through sexual activity. You may not begin to develop warts for several weeks after infection.

The warts are not always visible to the human eye. They may be very small and the colour of the skin or slightly darker. The top of the growths may resemble a cauliflower and may feel smooth or slightly bumpy to the touch. An infected person may have a cluster of warts, or just one wart.

Genital warts on males may appear on the following areas:

- Penis
- Scrotum
- Groin
- Thighs
- Inside or around the anus

Genital warts in females may appear on the following area:

- Inside of the vagina or anus
- Outside of the vagina or anus
- Cervix

However, you can develop PID (Pelvic Inflammatory Disease) without ever having an STI (Sexually Transmitted Infection). Genital warts may also appear on the lips, mouth, tongue, or throat of a person who has had oral sexual contact with an infected person. Even if you cannot see genital warts, they may still cause symptoms, such as: vaginal discharge, itching, bleeding, burning. If genital warts spread or become enlarged, the condition can be uncomfortable or even painful.

RISK FACTORS

Any sexually active person is at risk for HPV. According to the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD), nearly half of people who have sex have had some type of HPV infection. However, genital warts are common for people who meet the following criteria:

- are under the age of 30
- smoke
- have immune system weaknesses
- have a history of child abuse
- if their mother had the virus during childbirth

COMPLICATIONS

What are the complications of HPV?

HPV is the main cause of cancer in the cervix and can also cause precancerous changes to the cells of the cervix, or dysplasia. Other types of HPV may also cause cancer of the vulva, which are the external genital organs of women, as well as penile and anal cancer.

HOME REMEDIES

You should not use OTC treatments meant for hand warts on genital warts. Hand and genital warts are caused by different strains of HPV. Using the wrong treatments may do more harm than good.

Some home remedies are touted as helpful in treating genital warts, but there is little evidence to support them. Always consult your doctor before trying a home remedy.

COPING AND SUPPORT

Genital warts are a common symptom of HPV infection that can be uncomfortable or painful. They can disappear over time, but treatment is essential in preventing their return and possible complications.

Talking to your partner about genital warts can be difficult, but it is an important conversation to have. Being open about your condition can help you protect your partner from getting the infection and resulting warts.

HERBAL REMEDY

Libracin herbal alternative is the answer:

- **A.** Neem Tea: http://libracin.com/product/neem-tea/
- **B.** Libracin Herbal Tablet: http://libracin.com/product/libracin-herbal-tablet/
- C. Nutrishield: http://libracin.com/product/nutrishield/











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