

Genital warts are a sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by the human papilloma virus (HPV). Many people with HPV don't have warts or any other sign of infection.

FAST FACTS

- There are more than 100 different types of HPV
- Over 5.5 million new HPV cases occur each year
- Most infections occur in men and women between 20 and 24 years old

PUTTING YOURSELF AT RISK

Vaginal, oral or anal sex with an infected person puts you at risk for HPV.

Skin to skin contact can also spread infection. Condoms only protect the area they cover.

LOOKING FOR SIGNS/SYMPTOMS

If warts appear, they are soft, moist and pink or red in color. They may be flat or raised, and they may appear separately or in clusters.


Warts can appear on the genitals (penis or vagina) as well as the anus or thighs. Women may have warts inside their vagina. Men may have them on their testicles.

AVOID INFECTION

GET TESTED!



HOW HPV AFFECTS YOUR HEALTH



HPV can be an early sign of cervical cancer in women. A gynecologist can perform a test called a Pap smear to determine if you have HPV or are at risk for cervical cancer.

TREATING HPV

There is no cure for HPV. Some types will clear up on their own, others will not.

Genital warts may be removed by various treatments, but not always.

WAY TO GO

- Avoid all sexual contact
- Have sex with only one, uninfected partner who only has sex with you
- Use a condom during all types of sexual contact—vaginal, oral or anal
- Women should get tested regularly by their doctor or gynecologist

GO UP