

Genital Warts and HPV-Related Cancer

What is HPV?

- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a common virus that infects men and women. It is passed through sexual contact.
- The body usually fights off HPV before it causes any health problems.
- There are two types of the virus: wart-causing HPV and cancer-causing HPV. You can get one or both.
- Cancer-causing HPV can cause cervical cancer in women and anal cancer in both men and women.
- Warts caused by HPV may look like bumps of varying shapes and colors. The warts may disappear or return.

📢 HPV can be **Prevented** by getting vaccinated. **Using Condoms helps Prevent HPV** but not 100%.

At least **50%** of sexually active men and women will be infected with HPV.

How Can I Prevent HPV and its effects?

- There are vaccines that can prevent some of the common types of HPV. They are approved for both men and women. Ask your provider about it.
- Using condoms and other latex barriers every time you have sex helps lower chances of HPV exposure.
- Women over 21 should get regular pap tests to check for cervical cancer. If you're 21 talk to your provider about getting a pap test.
- If you have HPV, smoking can increase your risk of developing cervical cancer.

I might have HPV. What now?

- If you have what look like genital warts, get checked by your provider. If you have warts, your provider can recommend treatments to remove them from your genital area. **DO NOT TRY TO REMOVE THEM BY YOURSELF!**
- If you have one type of HPV you can still get other types. Keep using condoms to lower your chance of getting other types of HPV.
- Many people who have HPV want to know who gave it to them. There is no way to know for sure unless a person has had only 1 sexual partner.

📢 **Ask your Provider for more information on how you can Prevent or treat HPV.**