

HPV INFORMATION:

HPV AND SEXUAL HEALTH



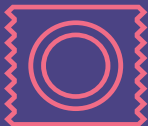
80%
of people will
get HPV

HPV is a very common virus. Often it has no symptoms and will be cleared by the immune system without causing any problems. However, some types of HPV can cause genital warts or, in rare cases, lead to certain cancers – anal, cervical, mouth and throat, penile, vaginal and vulval.

HPV can be spread by any skin-to-skin sexual contact, including:

- penetrative sex
- oral sex
- mutual masturbation
- sharing sex toys

Find out more at: eveappeal.org.uk/HPV



Condoms and dams reduce your risk, but don't offer full protection from HPV. There is also an HPV vaccine that protects against some types of HPV. This is offered on the NHS to young people up to the age of 25, as well as men aged 16-45 who have sex with men.

Even if you've had the HPV vaccine, it's important to know the symptoms to look out for, and get anything unusual checked.

MYTH BUSTERS

Myth: Only people who have casual sex/multiple partners get STIs.

Fact: STIs including HPV do not care about your sexual history. While having sex with multiple partners may increase the likelihood of encountering someone with an STI, transmission of STIs only requires one sexual experience with an infected partner. Due to HPV and other STIs often not having symptoms, your sexual partners may be unaware they have one, whether they are a long-term or casual partner.

Myth: A genital warts diagnosis means someone has cheated.

Fact: Genital warts can take months or years to develop after infection so it does not necessarily mean your partner has been having sex with other people. There is no way of telling how long you have been infected with HPV by the appearance of the warts.



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