

Facts about genital herpes

01

Genital herpes is one of the most common causes of genital ulcer disease.

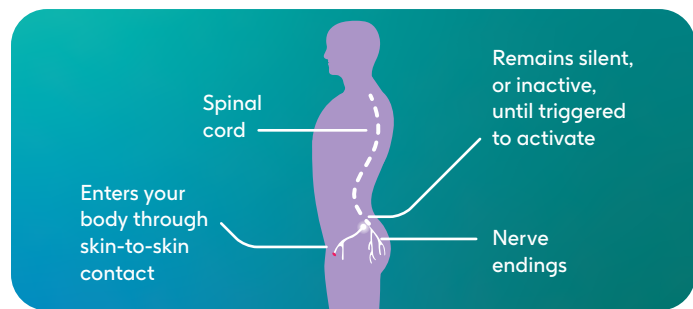
Genital herpes affects people of every ethnicity, sex, gender, age and social status. It's caused by a common virus called Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV).



02

HSV is most often transmitted between partners during oral, anal or vaginal sex.

The virus settles into nearby nerve endings. It can remain silent, or inactive, until it is triggered and reactivates. Triggers cause it to activate and travel back to the skin, causing tingling, itching, small bumps, painful blisters and open sores. Symptoms may vary between individuals.



03

The cause of outbreaks may be different for everyone.

You may or may not be able to figure out what triggers your outbreaks.



Sexual intercourse



Illness or fever



Sun exposure



Menstrual period



Injury



Emotional stress



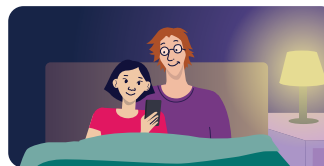
Surgery



Unknown

04

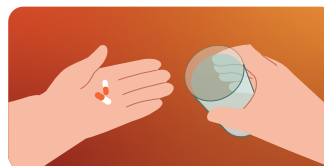
There is no cure for genital herpes but medicines can reduce symptoms and shorten the length of an outbreak.



Talk about it with sexual partners and take precautions together.*



Wash your hands well after any possible contact with sores.*



Take your antiviral medication as prescribed by your doctor.*



Use condoms and barriers to help lower the risk of passing on the virus.*

Living with genital herpes can be tough but it doesn't have to stop you from living a full life with healthy sexual relationships.

Remember to rest and take care of yourself when you have an outbreak.

*Even with these precautions, transmission is still possible.