# Genital Warts - Condylomata Acuminata

Genital warts (Condylomata acuminata) are caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV). HPV is a sexually transmitted infection that enters the body through small tears created in/around the genitals during sexual intercourse. While certain types of the human papillomavirus can cause cervical cancer, not all types of the virus are cancer-causing. Signs and symptoms of genital warts include papillary, cauliflower-like growths, bleeding from the anus, or bleeding between menstrual periods, and vaginal discharge. Warty growths can be removed using trichloroacetic acid (TCA) or bichloroacetic acid, podophyllin resin, or cryotherapy. Vaccines are available to provide protection against several types of the disease; however, the vaccines do not treat an existing HPV infection. Ideally, the vaccine should be given prior to the start of sexual activity.<br />




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## Mechanism

**Human Papillomavirus (HPV)**
Human Puppet-virus
HPV is a sexually transmitted infection that enters the body through small tears created in/around the genitals during sexual intercourse. The incubation period for HPV is approximately 3 to 4 months, although it may vary.

## Assessment

**Papillary Cauliflower Like Growths**
Pimply Cauliflower
Depending on the severity of the infection, the genital warts may join together to form a papillary, cauliflower-like growth.

**Bleeding**
Bleeding
Patients with genital warts may experience bleeding between menstrual periods. If the warts are present around the anus, patients may also notice bleeding while having a bowel movement.

**Vaginal Discharge**
Vagina-violets Discharging
Female patients infected with HPV may notice an increase in, or change in the appearance of vaginal discharge.

## Interventions

**Wart Removal**
Warty-toad being Removed
Genital warts can be removed chemically, or with the use of a laser.

**Trichloroacetic acid (TCA)**
Tri-color Acidic-lemon
Trichloroacetic acid (TCA) or bichloroacetic acid (BCA) can be applied to each individual wart using a cotton swab. A barrier such as petroleum jelly should be applied to the areas surrounding the wart(s) to minimize skin irritation.

**Podophyllin resin**
Pod-of-dolphins with Resin-raisin
Podophyllin resin is a cytotoxic agent typically used to treat small, external genital warts. Podophyllin resin is left on the treatments area(s) for 1-4 hours before being washed off. This medication causes shedding or sloughing of the skin containing the virus.

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**Cryotherapy**

Mr. Cry-O

If other treatments are ineffective, patients may undergo cryotherapy. Cryotherapy uses liquid nitrogen to freeze the targeted cells, causing cell death. Patients should not attempt to use over-the-counter wart removal as a remedy for genital warts.

## Considerations

**HPV Vaccine**

Human Puppet-virus Syringe

The HPV vaccine provides protection against several types of the disease, however, it does not treat an existing HPV infection. Ideally, the vaccine should be given prior to the start of sexual activity. The HPV vaccine has also been found to reduce the risk of anal and oropharynx cancer.

**Cervical Cancer**

Cervix-certificate with Tumor-guy

Certain types of the human papillomavirus can cause cervical cancer. Vaccines are available to protect men and women against HPV types 16 and 18, which are known to be cancer-causing.

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