

# HPV

*Every year two to five million people are infected with HPV (Human Papillomavirus), a common STI that can cause genital warts. In women, HPV can also lead to cervical cancer, the second most common cancer among Canadian women.*

## Risks & Symptoms

HPV usually has no symptoms and can go away on its own without causing any health problems. About three out of four people will have at least one HPV infection during their lifetime, but most won't even know they've had it. This means they can pass HPV on without knowing it.

Anyone who has had sexual intercourse or genital contact with another person (genital-to-genital or oral-to-genital) is at risk. The chance of an HPV infection increases with

- Sex at an early age.
- Multiple sex partners.
- A sex partner who has had previous partners.

## Treatment

### For women

HPV is detected through yearly Pap tests, and physical exams by a doctor can detect abnormal cells and genital warts.

### For men

Self-inspection and yearly physical exams by a doctor can detect genital warts.

There is no cure for HPV, but treatment options are available for genital warts and abnormal cells on the cervix. Talk to your family doctor or other healthcare professional about HPV, genital warts and abnormal Pap tests.

## Common Questions

### How can I prevent an HPV infection?

Ways to prevent HPV infections include not having sex, delaying sexual activity and using condoms. There is also an HPV vaccine, a preventative measure you can talk to your doctor about.

This is an informational handout only, if you have any questions or concerns contact PPR or your family doctor

## Planned Parenthood Regina

### THE SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION PLACE

1431 Victoria Avenue, Regina, SK T: 306 522 0902  
[www.plannedparenthoodregina.com](http://www.plannedparenthoodregina.com)

#### HOURS

Monday, Tuesday	9–12	1–5
Wednesday, Thursday	9–12	1–7:30
Friday	9–12	1–5
Saturday	1–5	