

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. Some types of HPV can cause genital warts, and high-risk types can increase the risk of 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 a vaccine that protects against some types of HPV. It is available for free until 25 on the NHS, and up to 45 for some people who may be at a higher risk like men and trans people who sleep with men, sex workers and people who are immunosuppressed.



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.



**the eve
appeal**

the gynaecological cancers charity

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