Venereal Warts

Venereal warts are growths on or near the sex organs. You can get venereal warts when you have sex with someone who has them. If you have venereal warts, you can pass them to another person during sex.

You get warts from a virus. The warts show up 1 to 3 months after you get the virus. They usually do not hurt, but they can still be serious. How bad they are depends on:

- **Where** they are.
- **How big** they are.
- **How many** there are.

HOME CARE

- For your treatment, you should do exactly what your doctor tells you to do. Apply medicine to the warts as told by your doctor.
- Be sure to see your doctor at the next scheduled visit.
- **Do not** have sex. **Wait** until you and your sex partner(s) get treated and your doctor tells you it is OK.
- Tell your sex partner(s): "I got treated for venereal warts. You may have warts even if you cannot see them. See your doctor."
- To protect yourself and your sex partner(s) from sexually transmitted diseases, ALWAYS use condoms when you have sex.
- Sometimes, warts come back. If that happens, you will need to go to the clinic again.
- **Do not** have sex with someone who has signs of venereal warts. Ask if you are not sure.
- For women, get pap smears as your doctor recommends. Venereal warts increase your risk of cervical cancer.

GET HELP IF:

- You think you have a sexually transmitted disease (STD).

Easy-to-Read style based on content from Parkland Health & Hospital System, Dallas, Texas

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