Abscess of the Vulva

An abscess is an area (like a sac) where pus collects inside the body tissue. The pus-filled sac is often caused by germs (*bacteria*). The vulva is made up of the large and small lips of skin around the opening of the vagina.

HOME CARE

- Only take medicine your doctor tells you to take.
- Soak or take warm sitz baths 3 to 4 times a day for 15 to 20 minutes.
- Clean the area with soap and warm water. Then, cover the area with clean gauze. Do this after going to the bathroom.
- You should always wipe from front to back after going to the bathroom.
- Wear loose-fitting clothing.
- **Do not** have sex until the area is healed or your doctor says it is okay.

GET HELP IF:

- You develop a fever of 100.5º F (38.1° C) or higher.
- The area becomes more painful, swollen, or red.
- You start to bleed from the area of the abscess.
- You have pain or a hard time peeing (*urinating*).

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Understand these instructions.
- Will watch your condition.
- Will get help if you are not doing well or get worse.

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