

7

Genital Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Infection

Patient name: _____ Admission: _____

NRS
DATE INITIAL

--	--

- I. **The client/caregiver will define genital HPV infection.**
 - A. It is caused by human papillomavirus (HPV).
 - B. HPV can refer to a group of viruses that include more than 100 different strains or types.
 - C. It infects the genital area of men and women including the skin of the penis, vulva (area outside vagina), anus, and lining of the vagina, cervix, or rectum.
 - D. Some people have precancerous changes in the cervix, vulva, anus, or penis.

- II. **The client/caregiver can list symptoms of HPV infections.**
 - A. Most people infected with HPV will not have any symptoms, and the infection will clear on its own.
 - B. Some of the viruses are called “high-risk” types and may cause abnormal Pap tests. They may also lead to cancer of the cervix, vulva, vagina, anus, or penis.
 - C. Other viruses are called “low-risk” types. They may cause mild Pap test abnormalities or genital warts.
 - D. Genital warts are
 - 1. Soft, moist, pink, or flesh-colored swellings, usually in the genital area
 - 2. Raised or flat, single or multiple, small or large, and sometimes cauliflower shaped
 - 3. Growths on the vulva, in or around the vagina or anus, on the cervix, on the penis, scrotum, groin, or thigh

- III. **The client/caregiver can show how to diagnose HPV infections.**
 - A. Genital warts are diagnosed by visual inspection.
 - B. Most women are diagnosed on the basis of abnormal Pap tests.
 - C. No HPV tests are available for men.

NRS
DATE INITIAL

--	--

- IV. **The client/caregiver can list treatment and prevention measures for HPV infections.**
 - A. Warts are removed. This does not cure the infection, and new outbreaks may occur.
 - B. The Centers for Disease Control recommends patient-applied medications to help treat the symptoms of lesions.
 - C. Routine Pap tests and careful medical follow-up to monitor cervical infections are important.
 - D. Recommend HIV testing and routine Pap tests are important.
 - E. Partner should be notified.

RESOURCES

Community Health Clinic

Healthy People 2010
www.health.gov/healthypeople

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/std/

REFERENCES

Ackley, B. J., & Ladwig, G. B. (2006). *Nursing diagnosis handbook: A guide to planning care*. St. Louis: Mosby Inc.

Cohen, B. J., & Taylor, J. J. (2005). *Memmler's the human body in health and disease* (10th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Hunt, R. (2005). *Introduction to community based nursing*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Perry, A., & Potter, P. (2006). *Clinical nursing skills & technique*. St. Louis: Mosby Inc.

Timby, B. K., & Smith, N. C. (2003). *Introductory medical-surgical nursing* (8th ed.). Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.