

Genital or anal warts are caused by human papillomavirus (HPV). This virus replicates more easily in people with HIV. There are different strains of HPV, also known as subtypes. Although some can cause cancerous lesions, most simply lead to genital warts that do not develop into cancer. Proper monitoring is therefore necessary for treatment of these lesions.

## GENITAL WARTS



### 01 PREVENTION

- The use of condoms can help to reduce the risk of HPV transmission greatly, in vaginal, anal or oral sex.
- If you are a sexually active person, it is highly advisable for you to test for HPV (so it may be kept under control) and for other infections that may encourage its transmission.
- Some vaccines can prevent infection with some of the most harmful HPV subtypes.

### 02 SYMPTOMS

- Some people may display no symptoms of HPV infection. Even in these cases, the virus can be transmitted and develop. Warts are small, rough-looking lumps.
- They may appear on the inside or outside of the vagina and cervical canal, or around the anus or on the tip or the shaft of the penis.
- Only a small number of subtypes can evolve into cancer.

### 03 DIAGNOSIS AND MONITORING OF EVOLUTION

- Visual medical inspection, which may require the use of instruments depending on the location of the wart.
- Evolution is controlled by means of smear tests, in which the lesion is inspected and a tissue sample is taken. This allows for determination of the HPV subtype, evaluation of the degree of wart development and, on the basis of this information, assessment of the risk of progression to cancer.

### 04 TREATMENT

- Although HPV cannot be cured with treatment, treatment does control its progression. Treatment is intended to eliminate wart tissue entirely and may involve the use of chemicals, cryotherapy (freezing of the wart), laser surgery and/or an ointment that boosts immune response.
- As these treatments can cause some discomfort, you should consult your doctor/specialist about what steps should be taken in each case, so that you may deal with it better.



**GTT-VIH**  
GRUPO DE TRABAJO SOBRE  
TRATAMIENTOS DEL VIH  
ENTIDAD DECLARADA DE UTILIDAD PÚBLICA  
ONG DE DESARROLLO

SUBVENCIONA



Generalitat de Catalunya  
**Departament de Salut**  
PROGRAMA DE PREVENCIÓ I ASSISTÈNCIA  
DE LA SIDA



MINISTERIO DE SANIDAD, SERVICIOS SOCIALES  
E IGUALDAD



MINISTERIO DE SANIDAD, SERVICIOS SOCIALES  
E IGUALDAD

POR SOLEDADEAD  
OTROS FINES DE INTERÉS SOCIAL

Secretaría del Plan Nacional sobre el Sida

Ajuntament de Barcelona

ÀREA DE QUALITAT DE VIDA,  
IGUALTAT I ESPORTS



Diputació  
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COLLABORA



ETIS  
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INMIGRACIÓ I SALUT

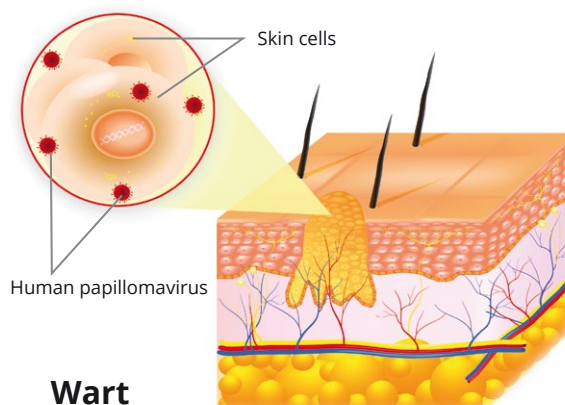


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DRASSANES



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PREGÚNTANOS

Tel. 93 458 26 41  
consultas@gtt-vih.org



Wart