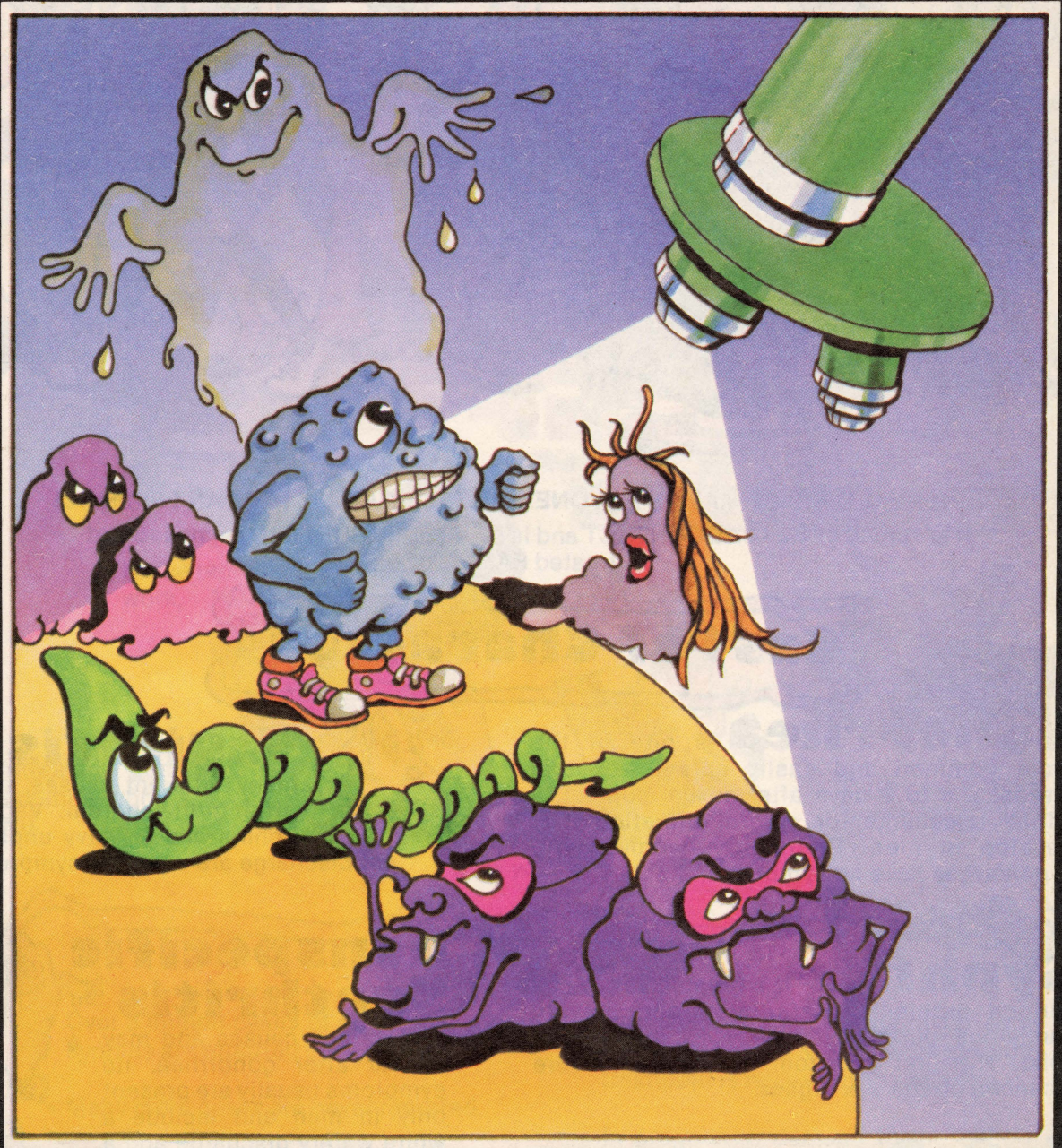


# THE LOVE BUGS



**Facts on Venereal Disease**

**David V. Carroll, M.D.**



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**VENEREAL DISEASE MAY BE ANYONE'S PROBLEM AND IS NOW AN EPIDEMIC!**

It is spread by SEXUAL CONTACT and is most easily CURED if diagnosed and treated EARLY.

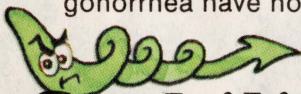
**Cast of Characters**



**Gonorrhea** is one of the most common and easily spread venereal diseases. 3 to 9 days after sexual contact, a "drip" (discharge) or painful urination may develop in men. Frequently, women with gonorrhea have no symptoms.



**Vaginitis** has many different causes, most often non-venereal. Vaginal itching and a heavy unpleasant discharge are common symptoms.



**Syphilis** if untreated can cause serious problems years later, and is very dangerous during pregnancy to the unborn child. The first symptom is a painless sore (chancre) on the sex organs.

**Nonspecific Urethritis**

has various causes and may appear after gonorrhea. Its symptoms usually are present only in men and include a white watery discharge and a need to urinate frequently.



**Herpes** is a virus infection that causes painful blisters in the genital areas of both men and women. The blisters tend to recur at irregular intervals. There is no proven cure.



**Venereal Warts**

appear on or around the sex organs. They are caused by a virus and often recur.

**VENEREAL DISEASES ARE TRANSMITTED BY SEXUAL CONTACT.**

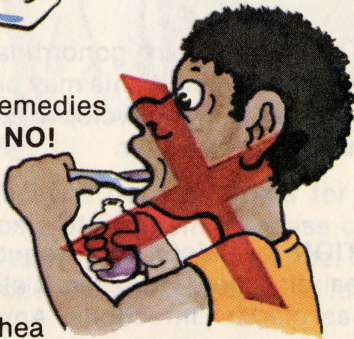
## Myths



VD can be spread by toilet seats. **NO!**



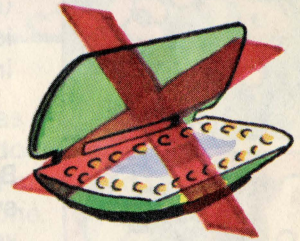
Home remedies work. **NO!**



Untreated gonorrhea becomes syphilis. **NO!**



Share medicines with your partner. **NO!**



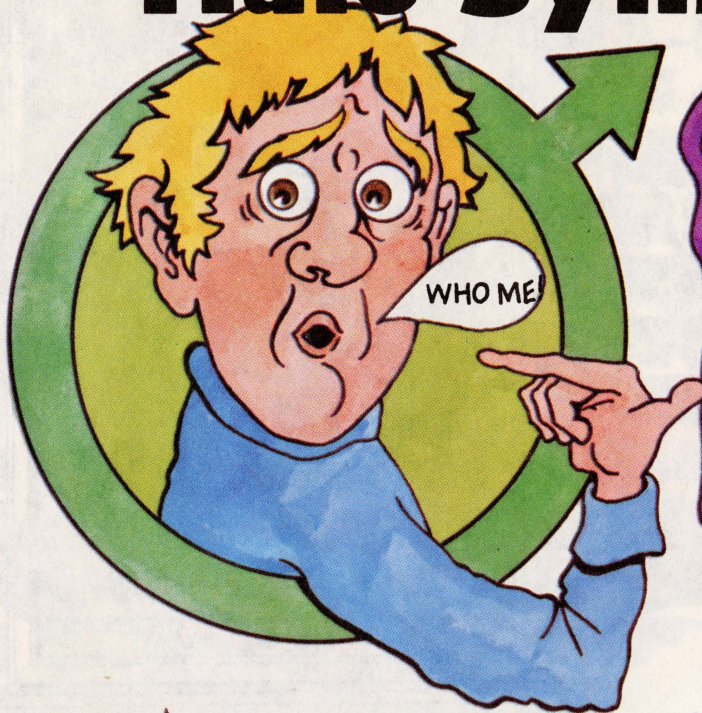
Birth control pills prevent VD. **NO!**

## Facts

- Over 3 million cases of gonorrhea and syphilis are reported each year.
- Many more cases are never reported.
- Venereal diseases are easily spread.
- Different venereal diseases may often have the same symptoms.
- Exact diagnosis is required for each case and type of VD because specific treatment is necessary in each one.
- In pregnancy, damage to the unborn baby by the mother's venereal disease can be prevented by early diagnosis and treatment.

**REMEMBER...NO SEX UNTIL TREATMENT AND MEDICINES ARE FINISHED AND YOU HAVE NO MORE SYMPTOMS.**

# Male Symptoms

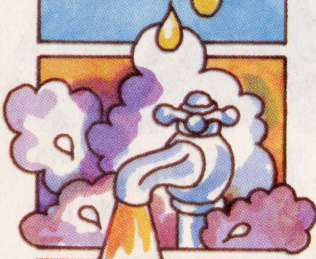


## Warning!

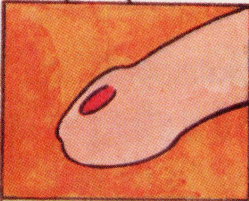
If you have any symptoms... go to a doctor or clinic immediately.



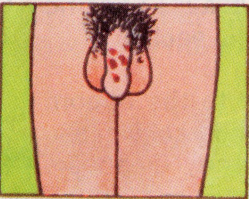
**DISCHARGE** — Most often seen in gonorrhea and nonspecific urethritis, a “drip” (discharge) from the penis may be white or clear and is usually thick. A rectal discharge may develop in anyone who engages in anal intercourse with an infected partner.



**BURNING WITH URINATION** — Painful and frequent urination is a symptom of many venereal diseases. However, it also occurs in non-venereal diseases such as bladder infections. Any time you notice burning, see your doctor.



**SORES** — Painless sores on the penis occur with syphilis and chancroid. Painful sores on the penis and around the genital area occur with herpes.

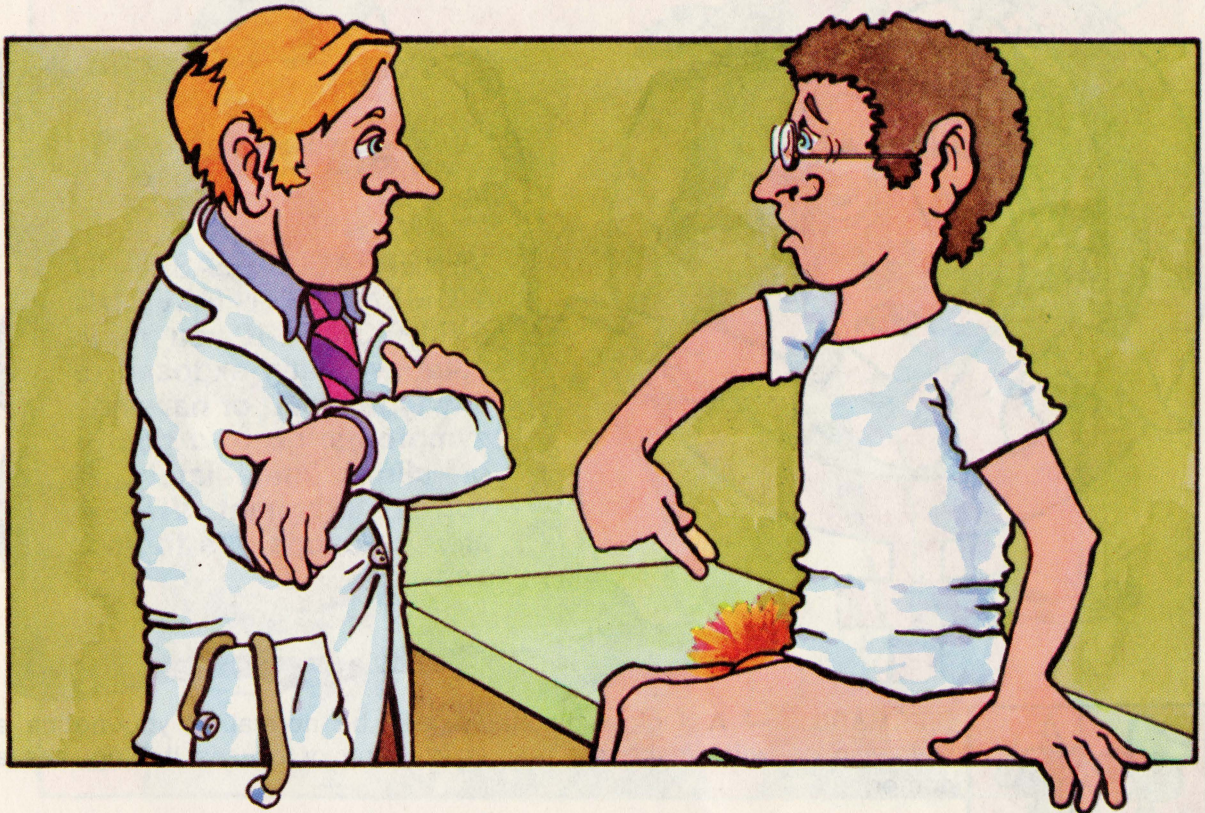


**LUMPS AND BUMPS** — Visible skin changes may occur with various venereal diseases. Venereal warts are bumpy and painless. A rash may be a sign of the secondary stage of syphilis. Painless pimple-like bumps on the sex organs may be caused by LGV (lymphogranuloma venereum); later, this rare disease causes swelling of the groin's lymph glands.

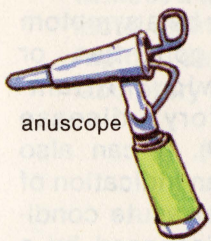


**ITCHING** — “Crabs” and scabies can be spread by close physical contact or contaminated bed linens. They cause intense itching and red lumps in the genital area and other parts of the body.

# Go to a Doctor or Clinic!



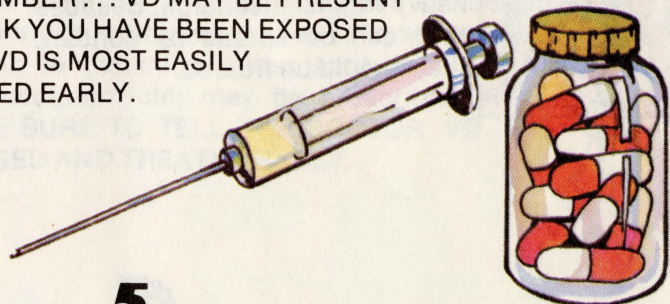
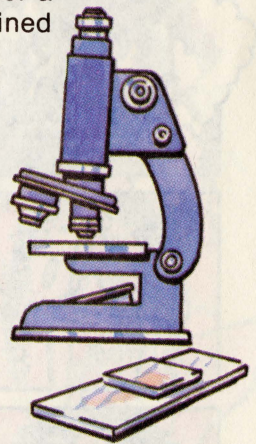
**DIAGNOSIS** — Because the symptoms for many venereal diseases may be similar, the diagnosis of a specific disease can be made only by a doctor or a clinic. The patient's symptoms are reviewed, discharges cultured and examined under the microscope. A physical exam and laboratory tests may be done.



anoscope

A blood test (VDRL) should be done if syphilis is suspected; ask for it! A rectal culture should be done in homosexuals during an examination with an anoscope. Caution! Anyone who engages in anal intercourse may develop rectal gonorrhea without any symptoms.

**TREATMENT** — EACH VENEREAL DISEASE REQUIRES A DIFFERENT FORM OF TREATMENT! Exact diagnosis is essential before treatment can be started. Penicillin, in various strengths, is used to treat syphilis and gonorrhea. If the patient is allergic to penicillin, other antibiotics (such as tetracycline, erythromycin or spectinomycin) may be prescribed. Tetracycline is also particularly effective for nonspecific urethritis. REMEMBER . . . VD MAY BE PRESENT WITHOUT SYMPTOMS. IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO VD, SEE A DOCTOR OR CLINIC. VD IS MOST EASILY CURED IF DIAGNOSED AND TREATED EARLY.



# Female Symptoms

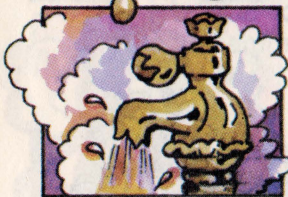


## Warning!

**VENEREAL DISEASES IN WOMEN OFTEN HAVE NO SYMPTOMS**—if you think you have been exposed to any type of VD or have any symptoms, go to a doctor or clinic immediately. If you are pregnant, VD can also be dangerous to your baby.

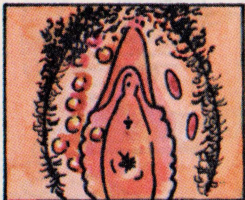


**DISCHARGE** — A vaginal discharge may be normal. If you notice a yellowish or white discharge that is irritating or causes itching, see a doctor.

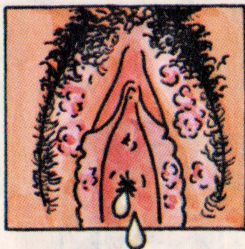


### BURNING WITH URINATION

Painful, frequent urination can occur with both venereal and non-venereal diseases such as bladder infections. In all cases, diagnosis is needed.



**SORES** — Painless sores in or around the vagina may be a symptom of syphilis. Painful blisters and sores can be caused by herpes.



**LUMPS AND BUMPS** — Venereal (vaginal) warts are usually painless but may be irritated by a heavy vaginal discharge. Because they can be spread by contact, they should be treated.

### LOWER ABDOMINAL PAIN

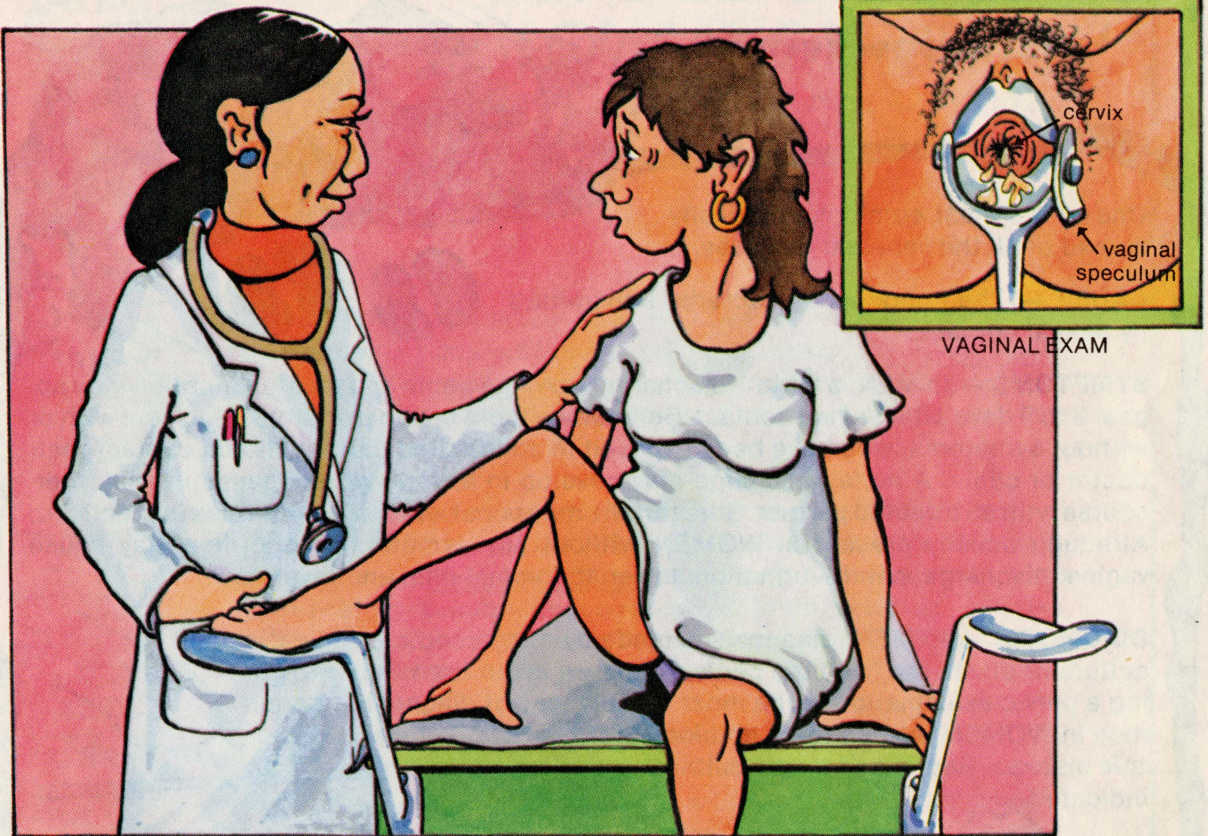


Lower abdominal pain — with or without fever — may be a symptom of gonorrhea or pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). It can also be an indication of other acute conditions and must be diagnosed by a doctor.

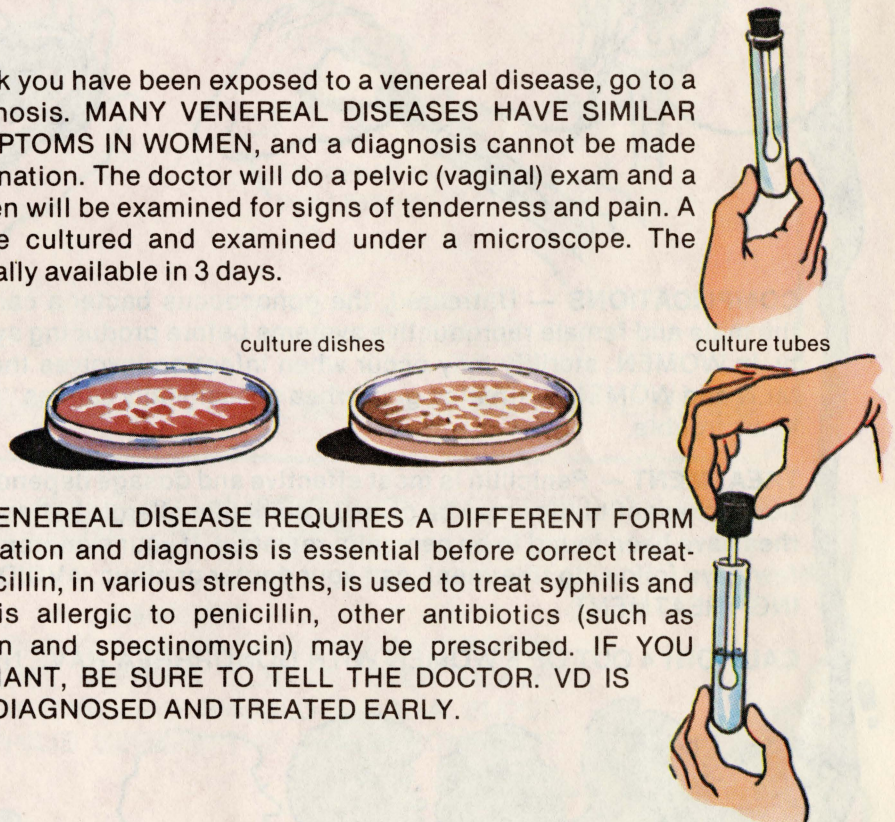
**ITCHING** — Vaginal infections such as moniliasis and trichomoniasis can cause intense itching. "Crabs" and scabies also cause intense itching and may cause lumps and bumps to appear.



# Go to a Doctor or a Clinic!



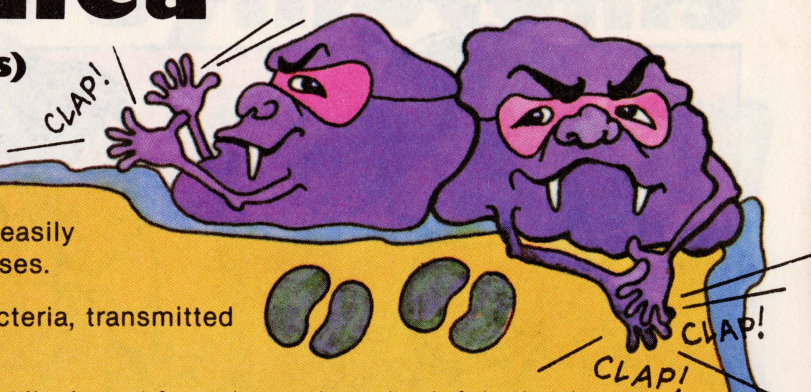
**DIAGNOSIS** — If you think you have been exposed to a venereal disease, go to a doctor or clinic for diagnosis. **MANY VENEREAL DISEASES HAVE SIMILAR SYMPTOMS OR NO SYMPTOMS IN WOMEN**, and a diagnosis cannot be made without a thorough examination. The doctor will do a pelvic (vaginal) exam and a rectal exam. Your abdomen will be examined for signs of tenderness and pain. A vaginal discharge will be cultured and examined under a microscope. The laboratory results are usually available in 3 days.



**TREATMENT** — **EACH VENEREAL DISEASE REQUIRES A DIFFERENT FORM OF TREATMENT.** Examination and diagnosis is essential before correct treatment can be started. Penicillin, in various strengths, is used to treat syphilis and gonorrhea. If a patient is allergic to penicillin, other antibiotics (such as tetracycline, erythromycin and spectinomycin) may be prescribed. **IF YOU THINK YOU ARE PREGNANT, BE SURE TO TELL THE DOCTOR. VD IS MOST EASILY CURED IF DIAGNOSED AND TREATED EARLY.**

# Gonorrhoea

(Gonococcus)

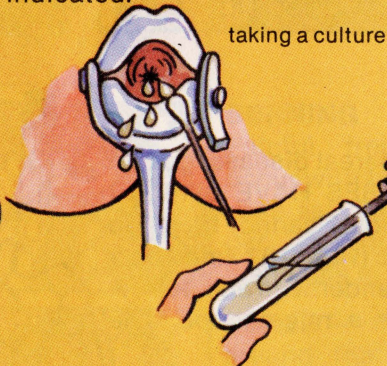
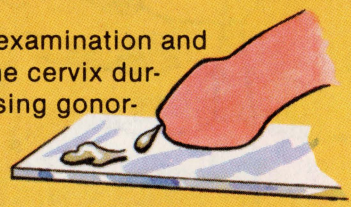


One of the most common and easily spread of all the venereal diseases.

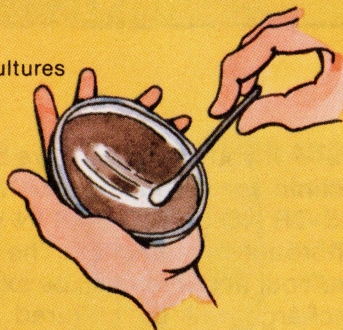
**CAUSE** — The gonococcus bacteria, transmitted by sexual contact.

**SYMPTOMS** — In MEN, a "drip" (discharge) from the penis and painful urination may appear 3 to 9 days after sexual contact. Sometimes there are no symptoms. All men, with or without symptoms, who have been exposed to an infected partner should contact their doctor or clinic. A rectal discharge may develop in anyone who engages in anal intercourse with an infected partner. Sore throats may occur when orogenital sex is practiced. Although usually present in WOMEN without any symptoms, gonorrhoea may cause vaginal discharge, painful urination, lower abdominal pain and fever.

**DIAGNOSIS** — In MEN, diagnosis is made by microscopic examination and culture of discharge from the penis. A culture taken from the cervix during a pelvic examination is the most reliable way of diagnosing gonorrhoea in WOMEN. At this time, no blood test is available for this disease. Rectal and throat cultures are taken when indicated.



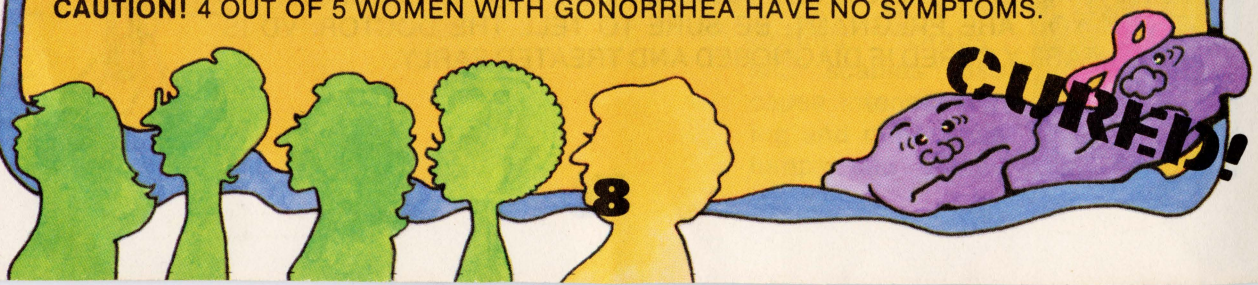
preparing cultures



**COMPLICATIONS** — Untreated, the gonococcus bacteria can live for months in both the male and female reproductive systems before producing symptoms and even sterility. In WOMEN, sterility may occur when infection involves the fallopian tubes. In both MEN and WOMEN, untreated gonorrhoea occasionally causes "joint pains" (arthritis) and heart trouble.

**TREATMENT** — Penicillin is most effective and dosage depends on the severity of infection. Other antibiotics may be given to penicillin-allergic patients. A few strains of gonorrhoea have been found to be penicillin-resistant. If your symptoms do not subside within a few days following treatment, call your doctor or clinic. **AVOID SEXUAL ACTIVITY DURING TREATMENT.**

**CAUTION!** 4 OUT OF 5 WOMEN WITH GONORRHEA HAVE NO SYMPTOMS.







**THE LOVE BUGS**  
Facts on Venereal Disease

16 pages, full color booklet. Graphic, contemporary update of VD prevention, symptoms, and treatment. Includes brief review of NSU, STD, and vaginitis.

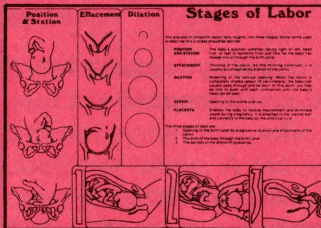
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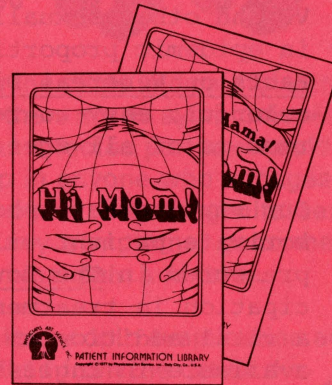
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Teaching Poster

22" x 32" full color poster. Reproduction of pages 14-15 in HI MOM! booklet.

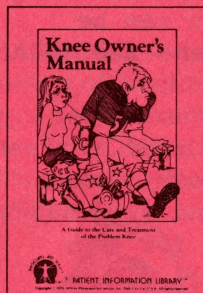
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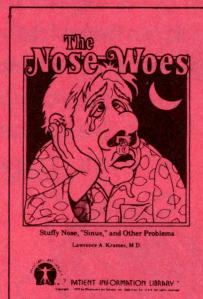
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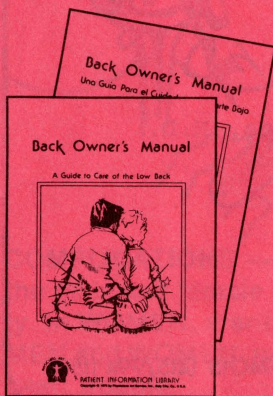
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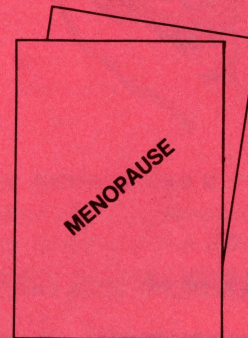
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tion. Other antibiotics may be given to penicillin-allergic patients. A few strains of gonorrhea have been found to be penicillin-resistant. If your symptoms do not subside within a few days following treatment, call your doctor or clinic. **AVOID SEXUAL ACTIVITY DURING TREATMENT.**

**CAUTION! 4 OUT OF 5 WOMEN WITH GONORRHEA HAVE NO SYMPTOMS.**



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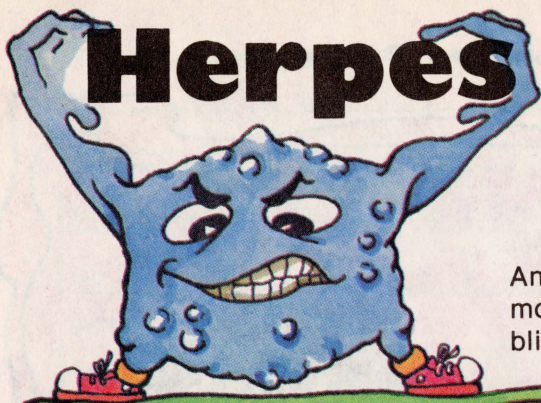
antibiotics are used for those allergic to penicillin. SYPHILIS IS DANGEROUS AND PROPER TREATMENT IS ESSENTIAL FOR CURE.

### CAUTION!

UNTREATED SYPHILIS CAN BE GIVEN TO AN UNBORN BABY AND CAUSE SERIOUS ILLNESS, EVEN DEATH. EVERY PREGNANT WOMAN SHOULD HAVE A BLOOD TEST FOR SYPHILIS BEFORE THE THIRD MONTH OF PREGNANCY.







## (Herpes Progenitalis)

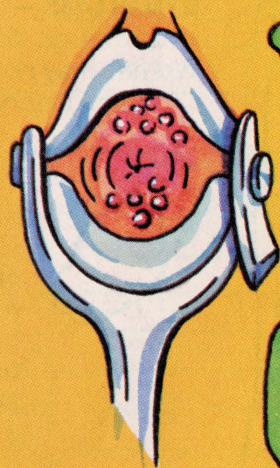
An infectious form of venereal disease and the most common cause of genital sores and blisters.

**CAUSE** — A DNA virus (Herpes simplex).

**SYMPTOMS** — Many small, red painful blisters appear 3 to 6 days after sexual contact with an infected person. In **MEN**, they occur on the penis, genital area, groin, or rectum. In **WOMEN**, the blisters may be found in the vagina, cervix or vaginal opening (labia).



**DIAGNOSIS** — Diagnosis is made by a doctor when the characteristic herpes blisters are observed during the examination or by taking a culture.



**COMPLICATIONS** — Blisters often break and become painful sores, but may heal without treatment in several days. Herpes often recurs. **ACTIVE INFECTION** of the genital area is **DANGEROUS** to the delivering mother and her baby. A **CAESAREAN DELIVERY** may be required to prevent the baby from developing a herpes infection with possible life-threatening complications. A culture can be taken if symptoms are noted during pregnancy.

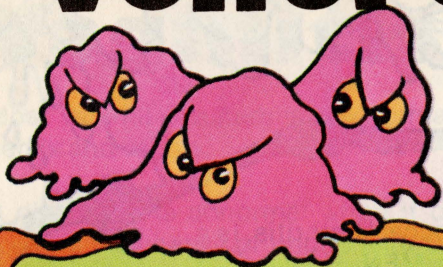
**TREATMENT** — At this time, no treatment available seems both effective and safe. However, your doctor or clinic may suggest ways to decrease the discomfort.

**CAUTION!**  
NO SEXUAL INTERCOURSE  
WHEN BLISTERS OR  
SORES ARE PRESENT.



# Venereal Warts

(*Condylomata Acuminata*)



A very common problem found on or around the sex organs and spread by close physical contact.

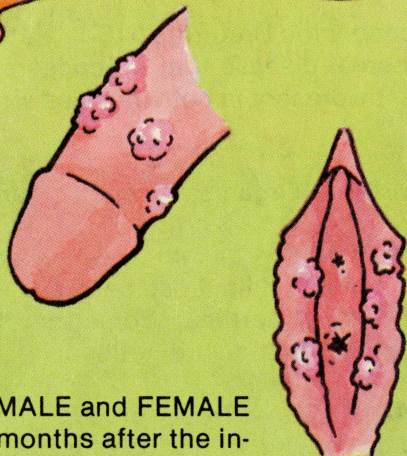
**CAUSE** — A virus of the Papova group.

**SYMPTOMS** — Venereal warts appear on both MALE and FEMALE sex organs and surrounding areas within 1 to 3 months after the infecting physical contact. They are pink, cauliflower-like and usually painless. Venereal warts thrive on moisture and are particularly irritating in the vagina and the rectum.

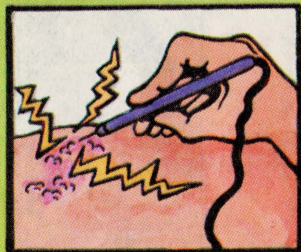
**DIAGNOSIS** — Laboratory tests are seldom necessary since warts are usually easy to identify by their appearance.

**TREATMENT** — In all cases, the area where the warts occur *must* be kept dry. Any discharge should be cleared and women should not wear panty hose or synthetic underwear. Cauterization, freezing, chemicals or surgical removal may be required. Use of a "rubber" (condom) is advised until warts (in either partner) disappear.

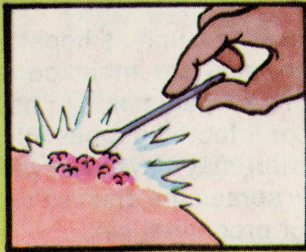
**COMPLICATIONS** — Venereal warts may tend to recur and if present in the vagina or rectum, are very difficult to cure. There is a good chance of developing venereal warts if you have repeated intercourse with an infected partner.



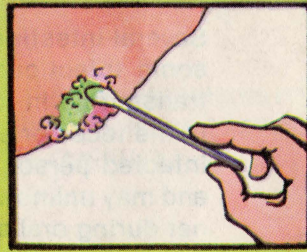
cauterization



freezing

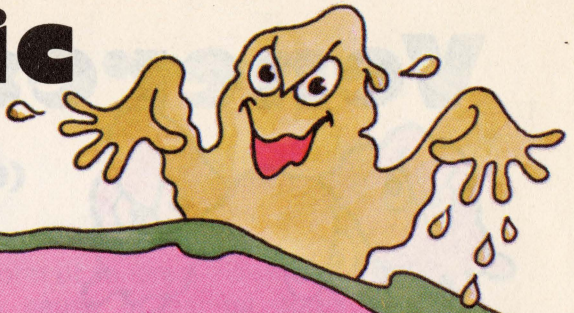


chemical treatment



**CURED!**

# Nonspecific Urethritis



Nonspecific Urethritis (NSU), also called Non-Gonococcal Urethritis, is a venereal disease that produces symptoms mainly in MEN. However, it can be present in both men and women without symptoms.

**CAUSE** — Organisms called chlamydia are probably the cause of this disease.

**SYMPTOMS** — A thin, watery discharge and pain while urinating are the first symptoms in the male. In some cases, the discharge may be thick, white and creamy and look like gonorrhea. Women rarely have symptoms, but occasionally frequent and burning urination are noticed.

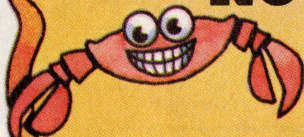
**DIAGNOSIS** — Proper diagnosis is essential as this infection may be confused with gonorrhea. All men with a discharge from the penis should have a culture done. The diagnosis of nonspecific urethritis may also be based upon a careful examination by the doctor and a review of the patient's history of sexual activity.

**TREATMENT** — The disease is usually treated with tetracycline for at least 7 days. **PENICILLIN IS NOT EFFECTIVE!** The discharge may be slow to clear and recurrences are common. You may be advised to avoid sexual intercourse until cured.

## CAUTION!

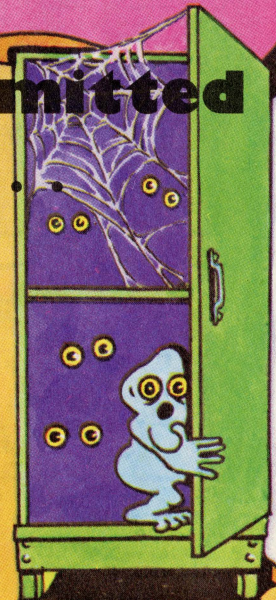
BECAUSE SEXUAL PARTNERS MAY BE "CARRIERS" AND MAY CAUSE REINFECTION, THEY SHOULD BE EXAMINED AND TREATED IF NECESSARY.

## New Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD).



Several intestinal diseases (such as hepatitis and some infectious diarrheas) are most commonly transmitted in food. The organisms can be found in the feces or urine of infected people. Often the infected person (carrier) may have no symptoms and may unknowingly spread the disease to a partner during oral-anal or orogenital sex.

Engaging in frequent oral-anal or orogenital sex with numerous partners increases the chances of infection with one of these diseases (STD).



# ... and Other Related Conditions

## Vaginitis

Most vaginal discharges are normal, whitish and consist of a secretion from the cervix and vagina.

A discharge is abnormal when it causes itching or irritation, has an unpleasant odor, is very heavy or tinged with blood. Any of these symptoms may be a sign of infection. Although they may be sexually transmitted, any of the following conditions can occur in the absence of sexual activity.



### Trichomoniasis



The trichomonad organism causes a frothy vaginal discharge, intense itching and sometimes swelling and burning during urination. It can be sexually transmitted but often causes no symptoms in the male. Treatment usually consists of pills and use of a condom. AS YOUR PARTNER MAY BE A "CARRIER", HE SHOULD UNDERGO TREATMENT AT THE SAME TIME.



### Yeast Infection (Moniliasis)

Conditions such as pregnancy and diabetes, the use of birth control pills or antibiotics can make a woman more prone to develop this infection. Moniliasis causes a cheesy white discharge with sometimes a strong odor and intense itching. It is treated with prescribed vaginal suppositories or creams. Although it is usually not sexually transmitted, the doctor may advise use of a condom.



### Nonspecific Vaginitis

This infection is caused by the hemophilus vaginalis bacteria. Its symptoms may include itching, discharge, and burning during urination. It is not sexually transmitted. Prescribed suppositories can easily cure this condition.

Some factors which contribute to the chances of vaginitis are: diabetes, antibiotics, birth control pills, intra-uterine devices (IUD's), poor personal hygiene, and the regular use of panty hose.

# Prevention and

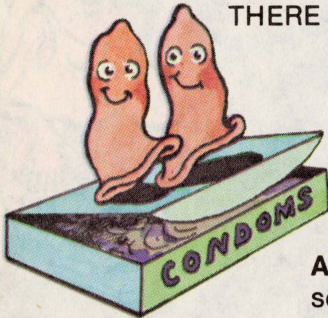
Regular visits to your doctor or clinic may be necessary to "cure" venereal disease and prevent serious complications. You can avoid spreading VD and possible re-infection if you see your doctor immediately after you have been exposed to an infected sexual partner or notice any symptoms.

You develop no immunity to venereal diseases, which means you can become re-infected with the same venereal disease many times.

## WARNING

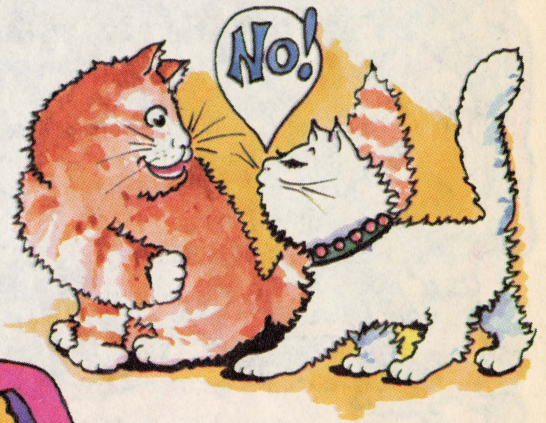
**SEXUAL CONTACT MUST BE AVOIDED WHENEVER YOU HAVE VD AND DURING THE COMPLETE COURSE OF TREATMENT.**

**THERE IS NO VACCINATION AVAILABLE TO PREVENT VENEREAL DISEASE.**



**CONDOM** — Proper use of a "rubber" (condom) can be a reliable means of preventing most forms of VD.

**ABSTINENCE** — Having no sexual or close physical contact prevents VD.



## CARE ABOUT YOURSELF —

New or numerous partners increase your chances of infection. Anyone can have VD.



## WASHING

Washing the sex organs and urinating immediately may help to remove any VD "germs". However, these methods are not foolproof.





# Follow-Up Care

**REGULAR CHECK-UPS** — All men and women who are sexually active should have periodic checks and be tested by their doctors.

V.D. CLINIC

REMEMBER ME?



## IF YOU HAVE VD

- SEE A DOCTOR OR GO TO A PUBLIC HEALTH CLINIC.
- FOLLOW PRESCRIBED TREATMENT CAREFULLY.
- NOTIFY YOUR SEXUAL PARTNERS. Your partner deserves to know, so treatment can be given. Your doctor or clinic will **CONFIDENTIALLY** report your case and that of your partner(s) to the Health Department in an attempt to slow the VD EPIDEMIC.

**CONFIDENTIAL!**

**REMEMBER**  
YOU CAN EASILY BE RE-INFECTED...  
AND YOU MAY INFECT OTHERS  
WITHOUT KNOWING IT.

DR. D. SKREET

**CONFIDENTIAL!!**

Venereal disease spread through all of Europe in the late 15th and early 16th centuries. It is epidemic in the United States **TODAY**. But now we can do more than blame each other. . .

**NOW MOST VENEREAL DISEASES CAN BE CURED IF DIAGNOSED AND TREATED EARLY.**



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