

# YOU CAUGHT... HERPES!

(pronounced hur-pees)



People sometimes call me “the gift that keeps on giving” which sounds nice, because who doesn’t like gifts? Apparently, I am not really a “gift” and the only reason people say that about me is because of how I go from one person to another through sexual contact.

I can make people have sores on their mouth, genitals or anal area (where your butt hole is). Lots of people don’t get sores, so they don’t know they have me, which is why it is important to get tested regularly.

There is no cure for me, but you can take medicine to help the sores come out less often and not be as bad. You can also help protect other people by not having sexual contact with them if you have sores, using condoms, and talking to them about it before you have a sexual relationship.

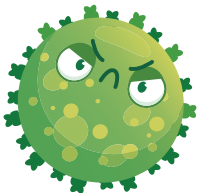
**MY VOICE | MY CHOICE**

**SEXUAL HEALTH**



# YOU CAUGHT... CHLAMYDIA!

(pronounced kla-mid-ee-ah)



Hi there! I'm Chlamydia, but some people call me "The Clam." I'm an infection who travels through unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex. You may know I'm hanging out in your body if you see stuff called discharge coming out of your vagina, penis, or anus. Sometimes I cause pain in your belly or make it hurt when you're trying to pee. I can be very sneaky though and sometimes people have no idea I'm hanging around!

The best way to avoid me is to not have sex, but if you have sex, I have a harder time getting in you if condoms are used.

If you catch me (or think you caught me), try not to feel badly about it. You will need to get tested by a medical professional and I'll go away with medication. If you ignore me, I can cause some serious health problems to your reproductive organs, meaning it may be difficult to have kids if you want.

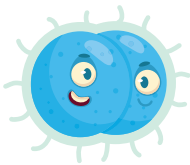
**MY VOICE | MY CHOICE**

**SEXUAL HEALTH**



# YOU CAUGHT... GONORRHEA!

(pronounced gone-a-ree-ah)



Hi, I'm Gonorrhea, but some people refer to me as "The Clap" or "The Drip"...how rude is that? Anyway, I like to go from person to person through unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex. People who catch me sometimes get drippy stuff coming out of their vagina, penis, or anus called discharge. For the guys, I might make your testicles hurt. Girls, I may make you bleed in between your regular periods. For everyone, I may cause pain in your belly as well as when you're trying to poop or pee. Ouch! For lots of people, they have no idea they caught me so I can infect lots of people without them even knowing it!

The best way to avoid me coming to hang out with you is to not have sex. However, if you do have sex, I'm more likely to stay away if condoms are used.

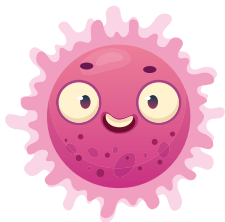
If you catch me (or think you caught me), you can take charge by talking to a medical professional and get tested. If you want me to go away, it's not going to happen unless you get medication. If I'm ignored, I can cause other problems in your reproductive system, make it hard for you to pee, and I can infect your blood which can cause other issues.

**MY VOICE IS CHOICE**

**SEXUAL HEALTH**



# YOU CAUGHT... HPV!



My real name is human papillomavirus, but that's hard to say so just call me HPV for short. I go from person to person through sex and even some kinds of skin-to-skin-contact.

I'm a virus that lots of people have and give to others without them knowing it. I can cause genital warts which can be large or so small that you can't even see them! One of the worst things I can do is cause cancer, so you will want to take me seriously.

One way you can help to stop me from getting to you is by getting vaccinated. Lots of people get vaccinated for HPV before they even have sex for the first time. Condoms are a good idea, but they aren't perfect when it comes to preventing me from coming to stay with you. It's also good to get regular check ups with a doctor, ask questions about getting vaccinated, and get tested regularly to protect yourself from jerks like me.

**MY VOICE | MY CHOICE**

**SEXUAL HEALTH**



# YOU CAUGHT... SYPHILIS!

(pronounced siff-ill-iss)



What's up? I'm Syphilis, but you can call me "syph" for short. Some people call me "The Pox" too. I might look adorable as a giant microbe, but what I can do to people is anything but cute. The first sign of me attaching myself to you is a sore where sexual contact was made which could be your mouth, genitals or your butt. It may seem like it's no big deal, but without treatment I can be a big problem. I can make people really sick, I can put sores that look like warts on your body, and I can even make your hair fall out. Years later, I can cause brain damage and blindness. Sometimes people don't know they have me until it's too late.

The best way to make sure you don't get me, is to not have sex. But, if you are sexually active and use protection, you are less likely to catch me.

If you get tested and find out you caught me, you can get rid of me with medication! People who never use the medicine to make me go away may develop health problems that will stay.

**THE VOICE OF CHOICE**

**SEXUAL HEALTH**

