

**SUBJECT:**  
**LEVEL:**  
**TOPIC:**

**SCIENCE**  
**FORM 3 BIOLOGY**  
**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES OF THE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM**

**CURRICULUM PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**  
**SCIENCE UNIT<sup>1</sup>**



# KEY POINTS

- **Sexually transmitted** diseases, or **sexually transmitted** infections (**STIs**), usually pass from one person to another through sexual contact.
- Examples of STIs are: **herpes, gonorrhoea, chlamydia, syphilis, human papilloma virus (HPV), HIV**
- The practice of safe sex could alleviate contracting STIs.

- **What is herpes?**

**Herpes** is an infection caused by **HSV (herpes simplex virus)**. This virus affects the external genitalia, anal region, mucosal surfaces, and skin in other parts of the body. **Herpes** is a long-term conditions.

- **How is it transmitted:** The herpes simplex virus is a contagious virus that can be transmitted from person to person through direct contact. Children will often contract HSV-1 from early contact with an infected adult.
- **How is it treated?** There is currently no cure for this virus. Treatment focuses on getting rid of sores and limiting outbreaks.

# HERPES



# Gonorrhoea

- **What is gonorrhoea?**

**Gonorrhea** is an infection caused by a sexually transmitted bacterium that infects both males and females. **Gonorrhea** most often affects the urethra, rectum or throat. In females, **gonorrhea** can also infect the cervix.

- **How is it transmitted?**

Gonorrhea is caused by the bacterium *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. The gonorrhea bacteria are most often passed from one person to another during sexual contact, including oral, anal or vaginal intercourse.

- **How is it treated:**

Adults with gonorrhea are treated with antibiotics. Your partner also should go through testing and treatment for gonorrhea, even if he or she has no signs or symptoms. With the right treatment it can be cured.

**CPDD/SCIENCE/2020**





# Syphilis

- **What is syphilis?** Syphilis is a bacterial infection usually spread by sexual contact. The disease starts as a painless sore — typically on your genitals, rectum or mouth.
- **How is it transmitted?**  
Syphilis spreads from person to person via skin or mucous membrane contact with these sores. After the initial infection, the syphilis bacteria can remain inactive (dormant) in your body for decades before becoming active again.
- **How is it treated?** The preferred treatment at all stages is penicillin, an antibiotic medication that can kill the organism that causes syphilis. If you're allergic to penicillin, your doctor may suggest another antibiotic or recommend penicillin desensitization. **There** are no home **remedies** or over-the-counter drugs that will **cure syphilis**, but **syphilis** is easy to **cure** in its early stages.

- **What is chlamydia?**

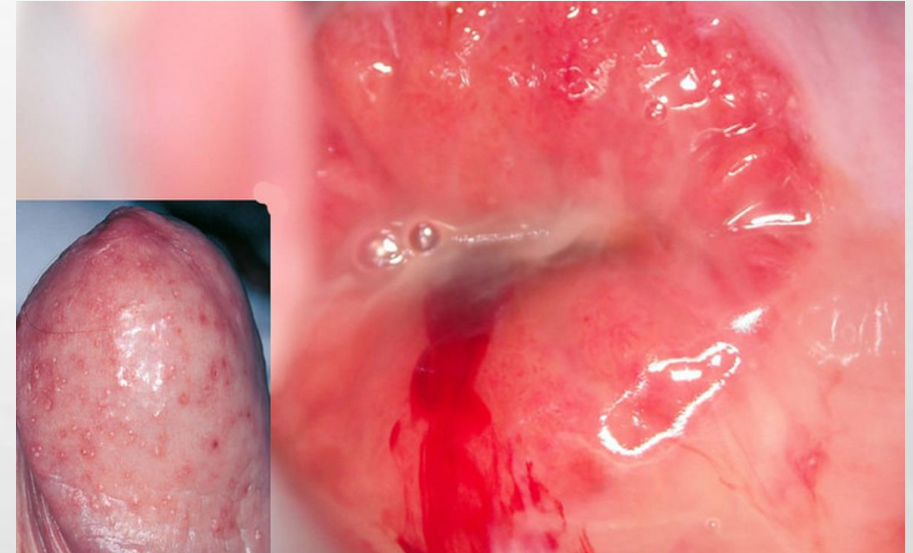
Chlamydia is a common sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by bacteria. You might not know you have chlamydia because many people don't have signs or symptoms, such as genital pain and discharge from the vagina or penis.

- **How is it transmitted?** The chlamydia trachomatis bacterium is most commonly spread through vaginal, oral and anal sex. It's also possible for pregnant women to spread chlamydia to their children during delivery, causing pneumonia or a serious eye infection in the newborns.

- **How is it treated?**

Chlamydia trachomatis is treated with antibiotics. The infection resolves within one to two weeks. During that time, you should abstain from sex. Your sexual partner or partners also need treatment even if they have no signs or symptoms. Otherwise, the infection can be passed back and forth between sexual partners.

# Chlamydia



# Human Papilloma Virus (HPV),

- **What is HPV?**

HPV infection is a viral infection that commonly causes skin or mucous membrane growths (warts). There are more than 100 varieties of human papillomavirus (HPV). Some types of HPV infection cause warts, and some can cause different types of cancer

- **How is it transmitted?**

These infections are often transmitted sexually or through other skin-to-skin contact.

- **How is it treated?**

Warts often go away without treatment, particularly in children. However, there's no cure for the virus, so they can reappear in the same place or other places.

Medications to eliminate warts are typically applied directly to the lesion and usually take many applications before they're successful.





# HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS

## What is HIV?

- This is the virus that causes AIDS. HIV is unique from most viruses because it attacks your immune system. The immune system gives our bodies the ability to fight infections

## How is it transmitted? It is transmitted through blood, semen, vaginal and rectal fluids

- And breast milk. As well as unprotected sex, By sharing needles, syringes, and other items for injection drug use, by sharing tattoo equipment without sterilizing it between uses, during pregnancy, labor, or delivery from a woman to her baby

## How is it treated?

- The main treatment for HIV is antiretroviral therapy, a combination of daily medications that stop the virus from reproducing. This helps protect CD4 cells, keeping the immune system strong enough to fight off disease.
- Antiretroviral therapy helps keep HIV from progressing to aids. It also helps reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others.



Activity. Using the previous data, populate the table below.

<b>S.T.I.</b>	<b>Virus or bacteria</b>	<b>Sexual or other forms of transmission</b>	<b>Treatment: Antibiotics or other</b>	<b>Cure or no cure</b>
Herpes				
Gonorrhoea				
Chlamydia				
Syphilis				
Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)				
HIV				

Activity. Using the previous data, populate the table below.

<b>S.T.I.</b>	<b>Virus or bacteria</b>	<b>Sexual or other forms of transmission</b>	<b>Treatment: Antibiotics or other</b>	<b>Cure or no cure</b>
herpes	Virus	Person to person	Other	No cure
Gonorrhoea	Bacteria	Sexual	Antibiotics	Cure
Chlamydia	Bacteria	Sexual	Antibiotics	Cure
Syphilis	Bacteria	Sexual	Penicillin	No cure
Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)	Virus	Sexual	Medication	No cure
HIV	Virus	Other forms	antiretroviral therapy	No cure

# WORD SEARCH

S Y C N A N G E R P S F T T A  
P N K W W H L R F I K S R J I  
A Y O M Y D W B H M Y A E H R  
X S C I T O I B I T N A A S E  
P G I E T P U T D S I Y T A T  
N A J L E E C N M X L Z M F C  
S R P O I A R I G A L B E E A  
L E P I T H S C E Q I D N V B  
P L X N L S P H E T C E T S P  
E W O U I L R Y M S I J E V E  
S C Q O A R O S S F N X J M R  
T Y N X O L T M U H A R P V Z V O  
R F F N A M U H A R P V Z V O  
A Z O C H L A M Y D I A Y N N  
W G T S N Y B L O O D V M S B

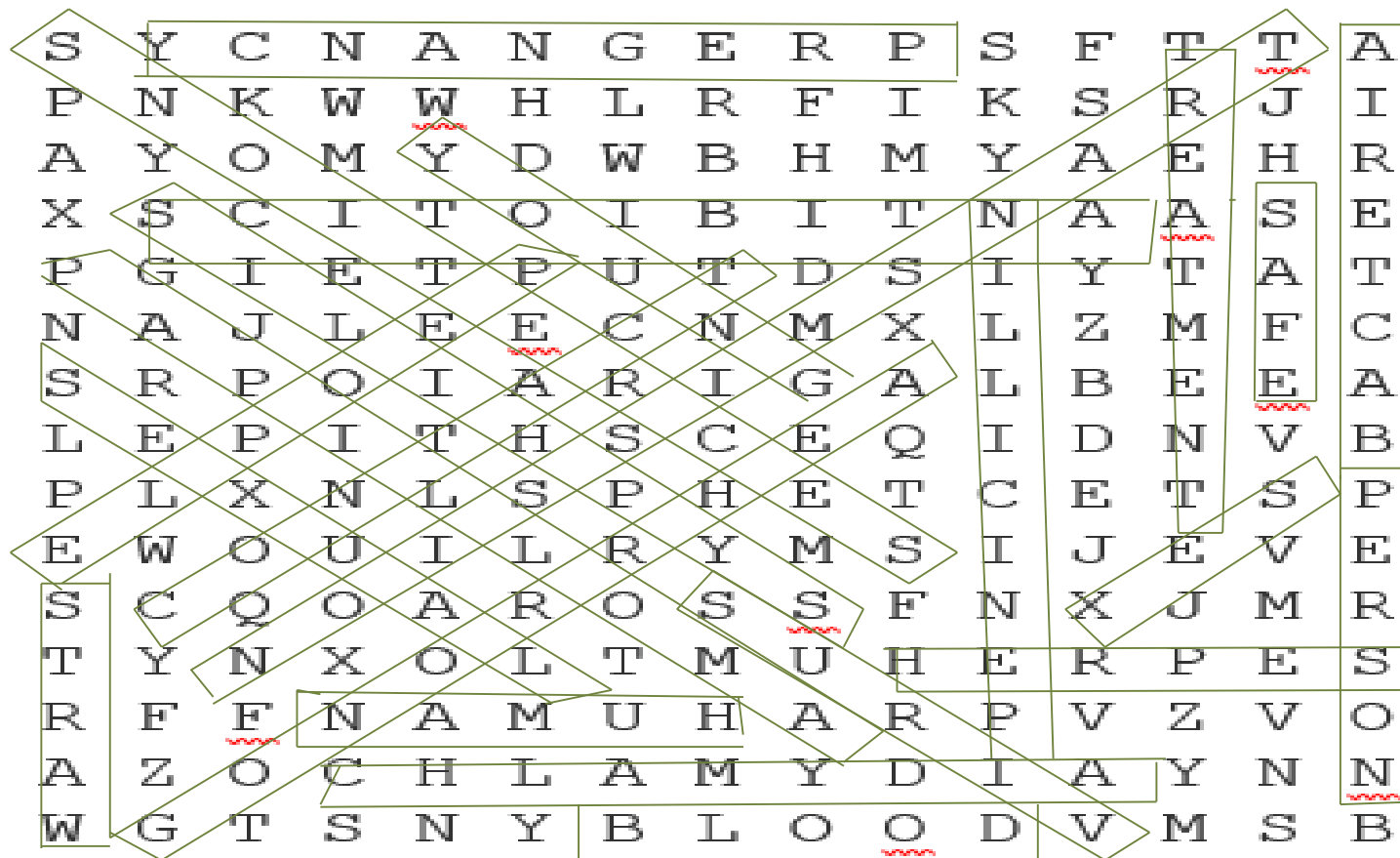
ANTIBIOTICS  
CONTACT  
PAPILLOMA  
PREGNANCY  
SEXUAL  
TREATMENT

BACTERIA  
GONORRHEA  
PENICILLIN  
SAFE  
SYPHILIS  
VIRUS

BLOOD  
HERPES  
PEOPLE  
SECRETIONS  
TRANSMISSION  
WARTS

CHLAMYDIA  
HUMAN  
PERSON  
SEX  
YOUNG

## WORD SEARCH



ANTIBIOTICS  
CONTACT  
PAPILLOMA  
PREGNANCY  
SEXUAL  
TREATMENT

BACTERIA  
GONORRHEA  
PENICILLIN  
SAFE  
SYPHILIS  
VIRUS

BLOOD  
HERPES  
PEOPLE  
SECRETIONS  
TRANSMISSION  
WARTS

CHLAMYDIA  
HUMAN  
PERSON  
SEX  
YOUNG



# REFERENCES

- [Kecia Gaither, MD, MPH](https://www.webmd.com/genital-herpes/ss/slideshow-genital-herpes) (2018). Genital Herpes, symptoms, pictures and treatment. WebMd. Retrieved from <https://www.webmd.com/genital-herpes/ss/slideshow-genital-herpes>
- Interactive Medical Media LLC, Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas & Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology, Dr. Harold Fisher/Visuals Unlimited Retrieved from [https://www.medicinenet.com/image-collection/herpes\\_simplex\\_virus\\_type\\_2\\_picture/picture.htm](https://www.medicinenet.com/image-collection/herpes_simplex_virus_type_2_picture/picture.htm)
- Healthline, Reviewed by Jill Seladi-Schulman, PhD (March 1, 2019). Everything You Need to Know About Chlamydia Infection. Retrieved from <https://www.healthline.com/health/std/chlamydia#causes>
- Laura Helft, Emily Willingham Friday, September 5, 2014. Preventing HPV – caused cancer. Nova. Retrieved from <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/article/hpv-vaccines-cancer/>