

# GENITAL WARTS

**Genital warts are relatively common in sexually active males.**

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## Cause

- Genital warts are caused by a virus and are spread from person to person particularly through sexual activity.
- Multiple partners and sex without the use of condoms increases the risk.
- Continuous scratching may also cause spreading.

## Symptoms

- Often no symptoms. Occasionally itchy.
- Soft fleshy warts growing in clusters around the base of head of the penis or on the shaft of the penis.
- Occasionally found around the anus.

## Treatments

- Genital warts must be treated by a doctor.
- Dr Michael Gillman uses liquid nitrogen to treat each lesion under magnification after special straining of the penis to identify lesions which may not be visible to the naked eye or topical treatments that modulate the immune system.

## Post Treatment

- Unprotected sexual activity is not advised until the warts have healed completely.
- Sexual partners should also be checked, if female ensure a recent pap smear has been performed.

Important to note: Condoms do not always protect against transmission of the virus.

If you have signs/symptoms or concern of genital warts or would like to book for a health check up, please contact Dr Michael Gillman.