

Communicable Disease

HCS/457

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### Introduction

This paper will discuss the two different types of herpes simplex virus type one and type two. This paper will show the disease process and how it affects individuals with the disease. In the process this paper will show how the public facilities deal with the two types of viruses. This paper will give an insight on the treatments, prevention that one can learn from.

Genital Herpes is a sexually transmitted disease (STD). There are two types of Herpes simplex virus type 1(HSV-1) and type 2(HSV-2). With genital Herpes most individuals show no signs of the disease at all. However, the Herpes symptoms may be more prevalent in woman than men. When the signs do occur they appear as more than one blister around the genital or rectum area. This disease is transmitted by way of broken skin or a mucous membrane such as inside the month. Each virus can be carried in bodily fluids (saliva, semen, fluid in the female genital tract) or in fluid from herpes sores (CDC, 2009). The risk for infection is highest with direct contact of blisters or sores during an outbreak. There are two types of Herpes simplex virus type 1(HSV-1) and type 2(HSV-2). With genital Herpes most individuals show no signs of the disease at all. However, the Herpes symptoms may be more prevalent in woman than men. When the signs do occur they appear as more than one blister around the genital or rectum area. This disease is transmitted by way of broken skin or a mucous

membrane such as inside the mouth. Each virus can be carried in bodily fluids (saliva, semen, fluid in the female genital tract) or in fluid from herpes sores (CDC, 2009). The risk for infection is highest with direct contact of blisters or sores during an outbreak.

The first signs of an outbreak can appear weeks or even months. When the occurrence appears the blister usually break leaving the affected area sore and may take two to four weeks to even heal (WEBMD, 2005). The absolute way to avoid contracting herpes is to abstain from sexual relations with an affected person. If one decides to engage in a sexual monogamous relationship it is best for both people to be tested. Others ways that individuals may prevent herpes is to use latex condoms or to take a HSV-2 blood test. National trend data on the prevalence of HSV-2 among those aged 14–49 years from NHANES 2005–2008 were compared with NHANES survey years 1988–1994 and 1999–2004. Prevalence decreased from 21% (95% CI: 19.1–23.1) in 1988–1994 to 17.0% (95% CI: 15.8–18.3) in 1999–2004 and 16.2% (95% CI: 14.6–17.9) in 2005–2008. These data, along with data from NHANES survey years 1976–1980, indicate that blacks had higher prevalence than whites for each survey period and age group (Figure 52). During 2005–2008, the percentage of NHANES survey participants aged 20–49 years who reported a diagnosis of genital herpes was 18.9% (CDC, 2009). The CDC has come up with a