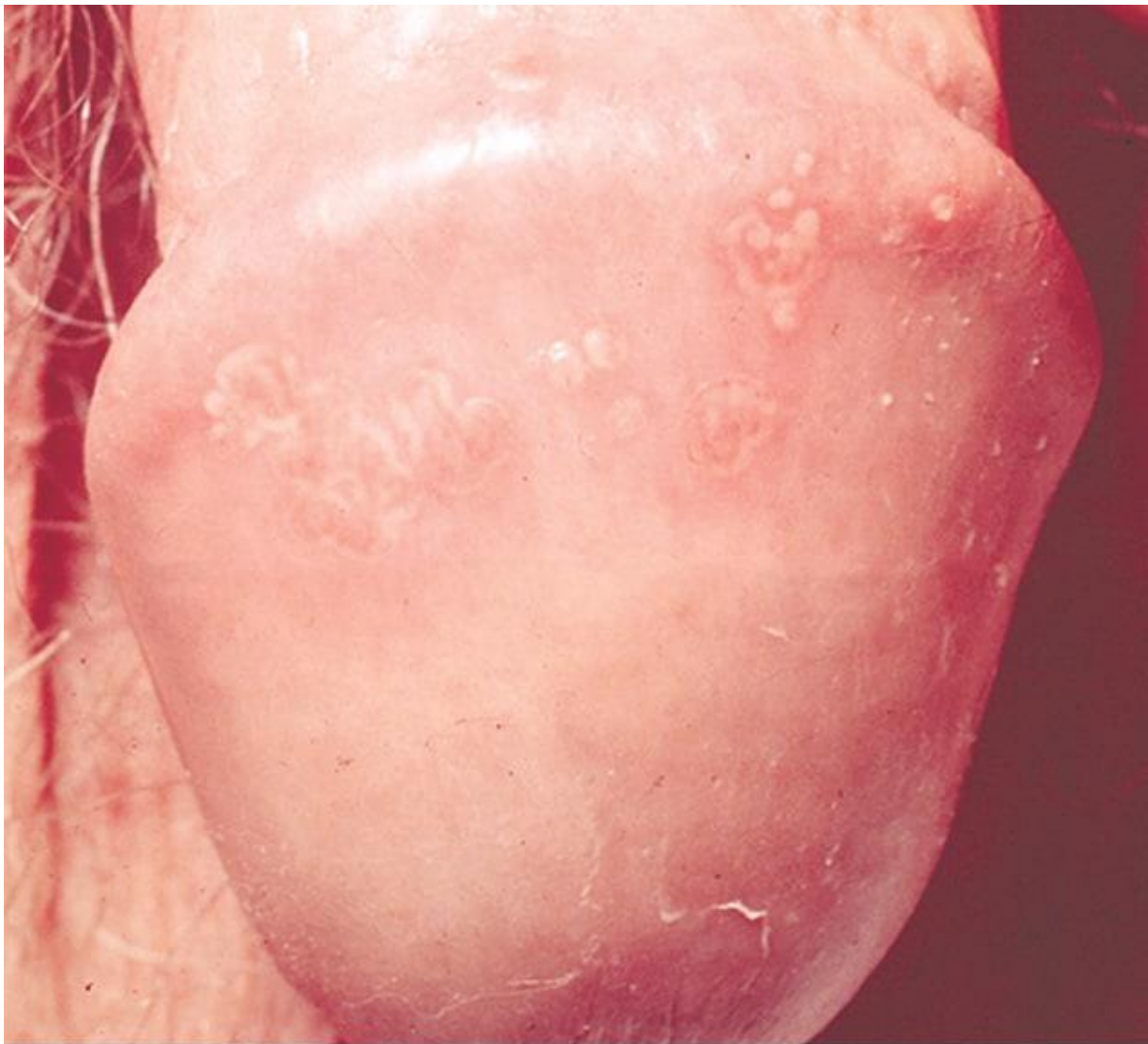


Genital Herpes

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Overview

Genital herpes is blisters and open sores on a person's genital area. It is caused by the Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) and can be transmitted from one person to another through vaginal, oral or anal sex.



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What causes genital herpes?

Genital herpes is generally caused by the Type 2 of the HSV (HSV2), but the Type 1 of the HSV (HSV1) may also lead to genital herpes from a cold sore of an infected person's mouth during oral sex.

What are the symptoms of genital herpes?

The symptoms may not appear to some people, but others develop the symptoms within a few weeks after being infected. The symptoms are usually blisters in the genital area. In men, the area of infection usually includes the penis, scrotum, anus, butt or thighs. In women, the area typically includes the vagina, butt, anus or thighs. Other symptoms of genital herpes may include the following:

- Nausea or vomiting
- Fever, headache or joint pains
- Trouble in urinating

Does genital herpes recur?

Genital herpes can frequently recur in some patients especially those with the HSV2. The recurrences generally become less frequent and less severe over time, but it is still possible to have a recurrence a few years after the initial infection.

How can I prevent genital herpes?

Using condoms are one way of preventing the spread of genital herpes. Using lubricants with a condom also lessens the trauma to the skin during sex.