

## **Anal Warts**

Anal warts are a very serious indicator of sexually transmitted diseases. Just as with other STIs, anal warts can spread very quickly and impact the health and wellbeing of an individual.

Dr. Howard Kaufman, Dr. Gabriel Akopian, and Dr. Juliane Golan at Huntington Colorectal Surgeons have extensive experience treating anal warts in men and women of all ages. We are one of Pasadena's leading anal warts treatment providers.

Contact us to book a consultation.

### **How do anal warts form?**

The Human papillomavirus (HPV) is an infectious virus that spreads through sexual contact. Over 40 strains of the HPV cause warts in the genital region.

Anal warts develop inside and around the anus, usually due to unprotected anal or oral intercourse with an HPV-infected individual. The warts are as small as pinheads and may grow in size if the infection worsens. They usually occur in clusters. They can range in color from peach to yellow and they can also be black. You will be more susceptible to anal warts if:

- You have unprotected sex.
- You have multiple sexual partners.
- You are already HPV infected.
- You have weak immunity that makes you very vulnerable to HPV infection.

However, unprotected sex isn't always responsible for anal warts. You may develop these warts if you exchange bodily fluids with an HPV-infected individual through non-sexual contact, such as touching the infected bodily secretions with your hand and accidentally grazing your anal region.

### **Signs you may have anal warts**

If you notice the following signs and symptoms, please visit our Pasadena colorectal surgeons immediately:

- Itching and burning sensation in and around the anus.
- Discomfort and pain during a bowel movement.
- Presence of sudden discoloration or tiny growths on the anus.
- Mucous-like discharge from the anus.
- Bleeding during defecation.
- A lumpy mass in the anal region (you can feel this through touch).

Anal warts are highly infectious. You may unconsciously spread the infection to your partner if you have intimate contact before seeking treatment. Additionally, untreated anal warts can cause a secondary infection and tissue disease in the anal region. This can compromise your health and lead to numerous problems.

Our experts at Huntington Colorectal Surgeons empathize with your worries about anal warts. We are committed to helping you lead a life of dignity and happiness. We are one of the leading anal warts treatment providers in the San Gabriel Valley. You can count on us for premium-quality care.

## **Examining anal warts**

Anal warts are usually diagnosed through a visual examination. Our doctors apply a thin layer of acetic acid to the region, which turns the warts white in color, making them easier to see. However, if the warts are deep in the rectum, we may use an anoscope to get a better look at them.

To prevent a recurrence, our surgeons also consult with you about your sexual history and medical history. We then create a bespoke treatment to clear-up warts and protect you from future infections.

## **Treating anal warts**

Anal warts can be treated in three ways:

- **Medications & steroids**

There are many specially-formulated topical medications and steroids available which can be used to reduce the size of anal warts and to eliminate them. You will be put on a medication schedule that you will need to follow until anal warts disappear.

- **Cryotherapy**

Liquid nitrogen is used to freeze warts and shrivel them. Once warts become dry, they automatically fall-off your body.

- **Surgery**

In serious cases or where the anal warts are located deep in the rectum, our surgeons may need to surgically resect them. We are one of the leading robotic surgery practitioners in Pasadena, California. We use a minimally-invasive technique to remove anal warts. This type of surgical intervention facilitates quicker healing and reduced chances of recurrence.

After the treatment, we will prescribe a care routine. You will also be asked to visit us for a follow-up so we can further customize the treatment to help you heal better and faster.

Feel free to consult us if you have any questions about after-treatment care.

## **Sources:**

<https://www.lacolonrectalsurgeon.com/additional-specialties/anal-warts/>

<https://www.healthline.com/health/anal-warts#treatment>

<https://fascrs.org/patients/diseases-and-conditions/a-z/anal-warts>

<https://www.webmd.com/sexual-conditions/hpv-genital-warts/hpv-virus-information-about-human-papillomavirus>

