

# Do you know? *Common Socially Transmitted Viruses:*



ProjectAccept.org

## HSV

- Between 80% & 90% of Americans will contract the Herpes Simplex Virus I or II (HSV).
- Over 80% of those living with HSV do not realize they have it, because the symptoms for many (but not all) can be very benign. The only way to be sure whether or not you have it is to be tested.
- HSV is so common that some doctors do not emphasize the importance of knowing one's status. Although identifiable with a blood test, HSV is not included in STI/STD panels.

## HPV

- At least 50% of the sexually active population will contract the Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Like HSV, most of them do not know they have it. There is no approved, commercial standard test for asymptomatic HPV; only for the cancers which may be caused by it.
- 100+ viruses cause HPV; 40 of them can be sexually transmitted. The 12+ types of cancerous HPV are the most common cause of cervical cancer; only a few types cause genital warts although most who contract and carry HPV may not exhibit either condition, but still, may pass them on.



## *Be Kind...*

*Given the high prevalence of these conditions, many of those you love – friends, co-workers, siblings – are already living with HSV or HPV, or will eventually discover they carry it. This may include you, as well.*

## Mission of ProjectAccept.org

*Reducing transmission of HSV and HPV requires awareness by those who have it. Stigmatization causes many living with HSV or HPV to hide their status, unnecessarily living in isolation or shame. Similarly, due to the existence of stigmas, many adults avoid testing and choose to remain ignorant.*

The mission of ProjectAccept.org is to improve the lives of those living with HSV and HPV and to reduce transmission to those who do not. To this end, ProjectAccept.org exists to:

- encourage all adults to know their HSV and HPV status;
- ensure that people living with HSV and HPV are not stigmatized for disclosing their condition;
- increase dialogue between those living with HSV/HPV and those who do not.

It is also the aim of Project Accept to support medical and research efforts to prevent, treat, and ultimately, to cure HSV and HPV.

For more information about these and other persistent, socially-transmitted viruses and to find support and social groups worldwide, please visit: **WWW.PROJECTACCEPT.ORG**.



*Help us, before you need it, too.*