

Granuloma Inguinale

Agent: *Calymmatobacterium granulomatis* (bacteria)

Mode of Transmission: Direct contact with lesions, presumably during sexual activity. Young children can be infected by contact with infectious secretions.

Signs/Symptoms: Skin lesions that eventually form fibrous tissue. This is a chronic condition that can lead to destruction of genital organs and spread to other parts of the body through autoinoculation.

Prevention: Sexual partners should be examined, counseled to practice safe sex, and offered antimicrobial therapy, when needed.

No cases of granuloma inguinale were reported in Virginia during 2008. The last reported case occurred in 2001.