

Granuloma Inguinale

Agent: *Calymmatobacterium granulomatis* (bacteria)

Mode of Transmission: Presumably by sexual activity; specifically, exposure to the bacteria from an open lesion in the genital area. Young children can become infected by contact with infectious secretions.

Signs/Symptoms: Blisters or lumps in the genital area. These skin lesions can enlarge and become open sores. If left untreated, the bacteria can lead to the 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.

During 2013, no cases of granuloma inguinale were reported in Virginia. The last reported case occurred in 2001.