

Disease Unit

Sexually Transmitted Infections

Mr. Brown started this unit with a class demonstration where all of us stood in a circle and held hands. We passed a happy wave and a loving squeeze around our group of innocent, fun loving Ridgewood teenagers. Then one of us got together with a "a scuz ball from Glen Rock". This resulted in a nasty pinch being passed around the group.

What if handholding represented a sexual contact?

What if the nasty pinch represented a disease?

What were the principles of disease transmission that this demonstration illustrated?

We also did a signature card activity. Each hand shake and signature represented a possible disease transmission. With just 3 signatures how many people in the class were infected?

Evolution of terms:

VD - Venereal Disease (in the old days we never talked about sex, only love)

STD - Sexually Transmitted Disease (a term that tells how the disease is spread)

STI - Sexually Transmitted Infection (many of these diseases don't make you sick right away and the infected person appears healthy)

We now use the term STI for this group of diseases that are mostly spread by sexual contact.

Film: The Age of Aids

Discovery: 1981 - first report in June of 1981 in CDC weekly Newsletter

CDC - Center for Disease Control

GRID - gay related immune deficiency

AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Sndrome

HIV - Human Immunodeficiency Virus

FDA - Food and Drug Administration

FRAIDS - fear of aids

Blood Transfusion of HIV/AIDS Hemophilia and RH Disease.

Finding the Cause: The French found the virus first.

Countries where the leaders dealt with the AIDS issues and educated their people have had less trouble with this disease over the years.

We study history in part so we can avoid making the same mistakes again. In the future listen to the CDC!

AIDS continues to be a big problem worldwide with millions of new cases each year.

A symptom by symptom look at STI

Urethritis or Vaginitis (pain, discharge, itching) caused by Gonorrhea and Chlamydia.
untreated = **PID** : Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID occurs several weeks or months after the initial Urethritis. The organisms spread throughout the "plumbing" of the reproductive tract and can have serious consequences)

Sores: Caused by Genital Herpes, Genital Warts (HPV), Syphilis - HPV is now the most common STI in the United States.

Genital Lice (Crabs)

No Symptoms
AIDS/HIV, hepatitis B,

For a more traditional disease by disease look

[CDC Information](#)

[Helpful Website](#)

There are 14 common STIs listed in these web sites. You are expected to know about the following 7: Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, Genital Herpes, Genital Warts, Syphilis, Genital Lice, and HIV/AIDS.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW:

3 issues kept people from having lots of sexual partners.

1-Disease. 2-Pregnancy. 3-Moral Values.

1940's - Antibiotics

1950's - STD decreases

1960's - Birth Control Pills (2 out of 3 are gone)

1970's - Sexual Revolution

1980's - Disease is back (1975-herpes, 1981-HIV/AIDS) [STI Rates](#)

TO BE AN STI

Live only in humans, live in the reproductive organs, spread "only" by sex! Mr. Brown recognizes that there are some alternative ways to be exposed to STI organisms but students need to understand that in most cases these organisms are transferred human to human by sexual contact.

TO AVOID STI - listed in order of effectiveness!

1. **abstain** A. always - moral choice. B. situational C. Individual

2. **mutual monogamy** What is the true meaning of #2.

3. **condom use** - safe sex, dry sex.

This can be called the A,B,C's (Abstain, Be Faithful, Condom Use)

If you think you have an STI

1. **See** a doctor right away!!!

2. **Tell** your partners. They need to know!

3. **Initiate** Abstinence. No sex till your treated and cured.