

Herpes Viruses Association – Professional Subscription Form

when complete send to HVA, 41 North Road, London N7 9DP

Help us to help your patients while keeping up to date with news from the HVA. We cover vaccine and treatment research, counselling and psychological support – anything and everything about genital herpes.

You will be better informed and we will have some of your money. This is a win – win that helps to keep us going. You will receive at least four *SPHERE* journals during the year.

I enclose a subscription of: (please circle) £40
I enclose £2.50 for a sample copy of Herpes Simplex – The Guide £2.50 (bulk price is below £1 each)
I enclose a donation to help the HVA to stay in business £ _____
Total £ _____ Please make cheques or P.O.s payable to 'HVA'

Name/Title: _____

Name of Organisation/Hospital: _____ Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone No. _____ Email: _____

Please send the magazines by post _____ and/or by email (as above) _____

Please let us know where you first heard about the HVA: _____

This will help us to make our service more effective.

Do you refer patients with concerns about herpes simplex to the HVA?

Website: Always ___ Sometimes ___ Not so far ___

Helpline: Always ___ Sometimes ___ Not so far ___

Do you give patients a copy of The Guide? Always ___ Sometimes ___ Not so far ___

Do you give patients an HVA Patient Card? Always ___ Sometimes ___ Not so far ___

Materials for patients - how many of these you would like to receive: posters, A5 . . . A4 . . . A3 . . .

Patient cards (credit card sized with information about our helpline and services)

Leaflets 'True or False' (2 page leaflet giving the basic facts for patients)

Leaflets in other languages French Spanish German Turkish Polish other (specify and we will try to arrange it)

If you would like to write an article for *SPHERE* or want to help us in other ways, please ring Marian Nicholson or Nigel Scott on 020 7607 9661 between 10am and 6pm.

Who needs the Herpes Viruses Association?

You do – and your patients do.

The HVA started out as an informal patient support group in the 1980s.

Since 1985 we have been a registered charity and we have helped thousands of people get their life back on track.

You know how devastating a diagnosis of genital herpes can be – some patients make this obvious immediately. Others go home and cry in private.

Fortunately they have the Herpes Viruses Association to turn to. Our website comes up top or close to top on Google searches for ‘herpes’. Close to 1.5 million individual visitors access the site every year.

Herpes Simplex – The Guide is bought by clinics and handed to over 10,000 patients each year – make sure your clinic is one of them.

Our helpline operates five days a week – on 0845 123 2305

We allow callers as much time as they want – some calls last five or ten minutes, some may be over an hour. You simply don’t have time for that.

We get no state support so we rely on the people we help – including you.

Our early intervention has helped to halt three other herpes transmission cases as well as at least one civil suit. We could not prevent David Golding from being prosecuted because we did not know about his case until it was too late.

If you hear about a possible case – let us know immediately and advise your patient not to talk to the police unless they have a lawyer alongside them and have already contacted the HVA.

Office: 020 7607 9661 info@herpes.org.uk

Outside office hours text Nigel Scott on: 07787 982821

Together we can provide solid support for patients.

ABOUT THE HERPES VIRUSES ASSOCIATION:

The Herpes Viruses Association (HVA) (formerly the Herpes Association) was formed in 1982 in response to an increasing number of enquiries from people with herpes simplex and from professionals. It became a registered charity in 1985. Small grants from the London Boroughs Grant Unit and the Department of Health have contributed to stability.

Two full-time staff and about 100 volunteers deal with over 6000 enquiries per year. As the number of enquiries and staff to deal with them has increased, we have had to increase our reliance on subscription fees and donations to maintain our charity.

We are the only independent agency in the UK (perhaps worldwide). Our advice, information and counselling services are of benefit to GPs and clinic specialists who are often burdened with too many patients and insufficient time and resources. Our subscribers find that reading or talking/writing with others about experiences they both have is of enormous value.

The HVA Office:

- * reacts to the misrepresentations of herpes simplex in the media and promotes a more accurate public awareness of herpes simplex;
- * supplies information to healthcare professionals: GU Clinic specialists, doctors, midwives, health advisers;
- * administers subscriber requirements, sending information and advice, supporting local groups and contacts;
- * publishes the journal *SPHERE* four times a year, covering everything from new research to HVA social events and advice on self-help and improving one's attitude to herpes simplex.

The HVA volunteers:

- * staff our committee;
- * run our helpline;
- * organise local self-help groups and social events - relaxed informal get-togethers which have been attended by thousands of individuals.

If you have further questions please write (with SAE) to: Marian Nicholson, H.V.A., 41 North Road, London N7 9DP, or phone 0207 607 9661 between 10 am and 6 pm.

FACT OR FICTION?

Can you answer the following statements correctly? Can you explain why?

As a health professional you will probably get all the questions right (see explanations below).

1. Genital herpes simplex is caused by a the same virus as the one that causes facial cold sores. TRUE/FALSE
2. You cannot contract herpes simplex from towels, face flannels, toilet seats, cups baths or swimming pools TRUE/FALSE
3. The sudden appearance of symptoms of genital herpes simplex does not mean that your partner has been unfaithful. TRUE/FALSE
4. You cannot reinfect your partner with herpes simplex and vice versa. TRUE/FALSE
5. You cannot reinfect yourself during a recurrence of herpes simplex e.g. transfer the virus from the genitals to the mouth and vice versa. TRUE/FALSE
6. Genital herpes simplex does not cause cervical cancer. TRUE/FALSE
7. All mothers with a history of herpes simplex who have symptoms at term should have a caesarian section. TRUE/FALSE

The statements below are all true.

1. Cold sores and genital sores are caused by both herpes simplex viruses type 1 and type 2 - they are nearly identical and both can affect any part of the body where the virus gains entry.
2. Herpes simplex can only be transmitted by direct skin-to-skin contact with the affected area when the virus is active.
3. Symptoms do not mean that your sexual partner has been unfaithful. The first recognised symptoms can occur years after first contact (primary infection).
4. If both partners have the same type of virus, they do not reinfect each other.
5. Once infected, a person does not re-infect him- or herself in a different site, since this would be equivalent to contracting it again.
6. In the past it was thought that herpes simplex was a predisposing factor for cervical cancer. The latest research indicates that there may very well be a link between certain wart viruses (but not the ones found in genital warts) and cervical cancer. There is, therefore, no need to have smear tests more often than the normal 3 yrs unless you have genital warts.
7. Only babies whose mothers contract simplex (for the first time) shortly before going into labour, or babies without protective antibodies (because their mothers have not had herpes simplex infection) who come into contact with someone's cold sore or whitlow, are in any danger of contracting a serious case. Recurrences during pregnancy are of no medical consequence.

We produce a range of leaflets which deal with all the important issues surrounding herpes simplex. Chose three FREE when you subscribe.

3-6 leaflets on "Boosting Your Immunity", "Dealing with Stress", "Understand Why You Feel Anxious" and "Terminology."

7-9 your choice of three leaflets from:- pregnancy and childbirth/ antibody type testing/ homeopathy/ talking to partners/ transmission and auto-inoculation/ shingles/ cold sores/ antiviral drug sheet/ lysine-arginine diet/ Elagen herbal immune builder/ summary of tips to prevent recurrences. If more than three are required they are 25 p. each.