

Molluscum Contagiosum

What is Molluscum contagiosum (MC)?

Molluscum contagiosum is an infection which affects the skin and may be sexually transmitted.

How do I know if I have MC?

MC can cause pearly, raised lesions which may have a dip in the centre. They are not usually painful or irritating. On adults the lesions are commonly seen on the inner thigh, lower abdomen and genital area.

If you have noticed any new genital lumps, ask your doctor/nurse to check the genital skin.

How do I get MC?

It is spread by skin-to-skin contact with a person who has the infection.

What is the treatment for MC?

Treatment can be given by your doctor/nurse. In most cases this is done by freezing each lesion with liquid nitrogen.

Do sexual partners need treatment?

If your sexual partner has unexplained genital lumps then they should see a doctor/nurse, as they may require treatment.

What else should I know?

Scratching, shaving or squeezing the affected area can cause spread to other parts of the body.

A person with molluscum remains potentially infectious until lesions have completely resolved.

Screening for STIs

All sexually active people should consider regular testing for sexually transmissible infections.

Gold Coast Sexual Health Service offers express STI screening that is available without an appointment providing you:

- do not have symptoms
- have not been in contact with a sexually transmissible infection.

If you have symptoms, or have been in contact with an STI, contact Gold Coast Sexual Health Service for an appointment.

Check our website at: <https://www.goldcoast.health.qld.gov.au/our-services/sexual-health> for times and locations



Interpreter services

Gold Coast Health provides interpreter services for patients who are from non-English speaking backgrounds. If you require the assistance of an interpreter, please indicate this on your registration form and advise Gold Coast Health prior to your appointment.

Interpreter services are provided free of charge to all patients who require the service, including non-Medicare patients.



For further information or support, please contact:

Sexual health

Southport Health Precinct

16-30 High St, Southport, 4215

Phone: 1300 744 284