

# Bartholin Cyst/Bartholin Gland

## What is it?

- **The Bartholin Gland**- is located in each side of the vagina. These glands provide fluid to help lubricate the vagina.
- **A Bartholin Cyst**- occurs when a gland is obstructed, usually by a flap of skin, and the fluid builds up, causing the swelling. This fluid may become infected, causing inflammation or abscess. The bacteria may be E. coli, or may come from sexually transmitted diseases.

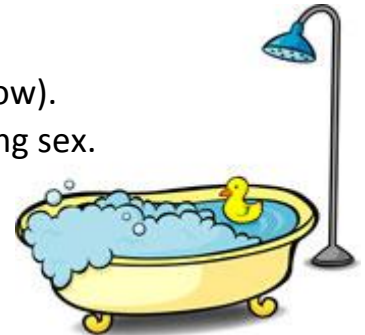


## SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- Non-tender lump near the vagina.
- Tender or painful lump near the vagina.
- **Discomfort**- when walking or sitting where discomfort is originating from the genital area.
- **Pain**- during sexual intercourse.
- **Fever**.

## FACTS

- **Some Cysts**- will go away with home treatment( see below).
- **A cyst**- may be prevented by using a condom when having sex.
- Some cysts go away without any treatment.



## WHAT CAN I DO? :

- **See your Health Care Provider**- if you experience any of the above symptoms for several days and after trying the following home remedy:
  1. **Sitz Baths**- soaking in a tub of warm water several times per day.
  2. **Abstain** - from sex while treating the cyst.

The health care provider may recommend surgical treatment of the cyst and gland and prescribe antibiotics to treat the infection.

