

Genital Conditions in Children and Young People

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Learning Objectives

- To know the important questions to ask when a child or young person presents with a genital concern
- To recognise common genital conditions in children and young people
- To understand the management of common genital conditions in children and young people





The Anatomy



Case 1

10 years old child presents with severe vaginal pain at night not responding to painkiller. Describe as sharp and burning type from the vulva into the vagina.

The patient does not have her period but shows early signs of puberty. There is no discharge.

Over the past 3 years she had occasional episode but pain was much milder and shorter. Currently pain is preventing the child to sleep and so painful that mum has provided recording of the child crying and screaming in pain.

The child has also noticed that she cannot wear jeans anymore and feels uncomfortable with legging during PE lesson. There is no safeguarding concern. The examination swab and pelvic scan are within the normal.



- When the pain occurs (day/night/anytime)
- Anything make it worse
- Anything make it better
- Associated symptoms itch, discharge, bleeding
- Washing/toileting regimen
- General skin condition
- Allergies



Case 1

- Mum changed laundry detergent, symptoms have resolved
- Long history of sensitive skin/eczema
- Washes genital area 3-4 times a day
- Uses sensitive skin wash
- Uses Sudocrem not sure if it helps



Case 1





Vulvovaginitis

- Most commonly from over washing causing drying of the skin
- More likely if has eczema/atopy
- Common in young children due to:
- Inadequate hygiene
- Lack of protective hair & labial fat pads
- Lack of oestrogen



Symptoms

- Pain
- Itching
- Discomfort
- Discharge
- Bleeding



Management

General advice

- Reduce washing
- Shower rather than bath
- No bubblebaths/soaps
- Cotton loose clothing

Rx

Dermol 500 as a soap substitute

Cetraben emollient apply 2-3 times daily



Complications

Bacterial infection

- Presents with discharge +/- bleeding
- Commonly streptococcus
- Rx: Clindamycin cream or po Amoxicillin

HSV infection

- Presents with multiple painful vesicles
- Rx: Po Acyclovir and lidocaine gel



No response to treatment?

- Swab again
- Untreated infection

- Biopsy
- Lichen Simplex
- Rx: Topical steroids and simple vulvovaginitis treatment



Learning points!

VERY RARELY CANDIDA!

Low Vaginal Swab Only treat once result available

Always give general advice re genital skin care, use of Dermol 500 and emollient



Case 2

I would be most grateful if you could see this 6 year old girl. Clinically, she has a sclerotic patch on her left lower anterior neck which resembles extra-genital lichen sclerosus et atrophicus.

She also has evidence of genital lichen sclerosus et atrophicus. I would be most grateful if you could see with a view to genital assessment, but in particular, undertaking a genital punch biopsy for histology. Mum is aware that you will be contacting her with an appointment, and I have arranged to see her again with these results.

In the meantime, I have recommended she uses some Eumovate ointment to the affected areas.





- Genital discomfort
- Genital itching
- Vaginal discharge
- Vaginal bleeding
- Lesions elsewhere
- Family history





Lichen Sclerosis - Treatment

- Cetraben Emollient
- Dermol 500 as soap substitute
- Topical Steroids for flares (Hydrocortisone or Eumovate)



Learning points!

BIOPSY IS ESSENTIAL

Can show malignant change – annual review

Always give general advice re genital skin care, use of Dermol 500 and emollient



Case 3

This 15 yo lady seems to have developed 2 month history of an extra tag like lesion on posterior enterance of her vaginal area/ perinium. It is very tender/ sensitive and is causing her a lot of discomfort.

Please would you kindly review her.





- How she noticed it
- What sort of discomfort
- Genital itch
- Vaginal discharge
- Menarche
- Periods
- Tampon use
- **Social history**
- **Sexual activity**



Hymenal Caruncle



Chronic Sexual Abuse



Hymenal Caruncle - Treatment

- If interfering with daily living –
- Surgical intervention
- **Findings**: posterior prominent hymenal caruncles normal anatomy
- Sterile Preparation: With chlorhexidine.
- Anaesthesia: General.
- **Operation Note**: Operation Note
- hymenal caruncles excised with monopolar diathermy, no bleeding



Learning points!

SOCIAL & SEXUAL HISTORY VITAL

Surgery is simple and can make a difference

Always give general advice re genital skin care, use of Dermol 500 and emollient



Case 4

Examination today with Dad with consent

well 2 yo female child

urethra visbible anteriorly

however ?imperforate hymen / agensis of lower vagina will refer paeds – SMH

Dear Paediatrician, please see re above





- When first noticed from birth or new
- Genital discomfort
- Genital itching
- Vaginal discharge
- Vaginal bleeding
- Urine stream



Labial adhesion



Labial adhesion- Treatment



- Emollient or oestrogen cream
- Dermol 500

Surgical intervention if:

- Concerned about anatomy behind fusion
- Post pubertal



Learning points!

KNOW THE ANATOMY

Reassurance is key

Always give general advice re genital skin care, use of Dermol 500 and emollient



Case 5

Dear Paediatrician. Please see this 15yo girl.

When taking out tampons noticed a piece of skin over the vagina which bothers her. wants this checked-no other symptoms. no vaginal pain/discomfort.



- Genital discomfort Genital itching
- Vaginal discharge
- Vaginal bleeding
- Social history
- Sports etc
- Menstrual history
- Pads or tampons
- Sexual history



Hymenal Band



Hymenal Band - Treatment

Surgical excision

Cetraben Emollient Dermol 500 as a soap substitute



Learning points!

KNOW THE ANATOMY

Importance of social history

Always give general advice re genital skin care, use of Dermol 500 and emollient