Sexually Transmitted Infection Series #1: Winter 2011

The Silent Epidemic †† † † † † † † †

Chlamydia is the most <u>prevalent</u> STI in the United States

Female Symptoms:

- Burning sensation during urination
- Painful sexual intercourse
- Vaginal discharge and itch
- Back and abdominal discomfort
- Fever and nausea
- Bleeding between menstrual periods

Male Symptoms:

- Burning sensation during urination
- Discharge from the penis or rectum
- Testicular tenderness or pain
- Rectal pain or itching

Know the Facts:

- Over 2.5 million people are infected in the United States
- Chlamydia reports have more than doubled over the past 10 years in Virginia alone
- First Years are 70% more likely than other college students to contract Chlamydia (Emory University Health Sciences Center, news release, May 2006)
 - 75% of women and 50% of men are asymptomatic. Even if there are symptoms, they are often overlooked.

Chlamydia can be treated with a single dose of antibiotics. However, if left untreated or if multiple reinfections occur Chlamydia can cause IRREVERSABLE long-term health effects including:

- ♀ Chronic pelvic pain
 ♀ Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
 ♀ Scarring
 ♀ Ectopic Pregnancy
- ☐ Infertility/Sterility
 ☐ Epididymitis
 ☐ Reiter's Syndrome

If you think you might have Chlamydia, you can contact the Student Health Center about getting tested for STIs.

Your concerns and questions are completely confidential.

Phone: 540-458-8401

Email: studenthealth@wlu.edu