

# CONDOMS

(Josh McDowell research 2006 to present)

## “TALKING POINTS ON CONDOM USE AND HPV RISK”

- “The study shows that irrespective of the frequency of condom use, increased number of partners considerably increases the risk of HPV infection in women. It also shows that the number of previous partners of their male sex partners increases the risk for HPV infection in women. Women whose partners had no previous sex partner did not get infected throughout the study. But if their partner had any previous sex partner, these women had a 74% risk of HPV infection.”
- “Although touted as a study that shows that condoms ‘protect’ against HPV infections, the study actually shows how unrealistic it is to assume that education and motivation can make young people use condoms consistently and correctly. Even highly motivated, well-educated, and well-informed young women in this study had a very low frequency of consistent condom use. The overall frequency of condom use in the sample has not been stated in the article but Table 1 of the article shows that of the total 143 patient-years at risk, women had used condoms in each act of sexual intercourse only 22% of the time.”
- “Although most people would say that a ‘prevention’ method should result in zero infections, the study found that if 100 women used condoms 100% of the time for one year, 37 would be infected with HPV. And for the 100 women who used condoms 5% or less of the time, 89 of these would be infected. It is more accurate to say using condoms for vaginal sex reduced the risk of HPV infection by 11-63%.”
- “The study reported an HPV infection rate of 37.8% for women who reported 100% condom use. This might be impressive if the HPV prevalence in the male partners were known to be 100%, less so if the HPV prevalence were 50%. Since the HPV prevalence in male partners is unknown, it is incorrect to assume that the risk of infection for all members of the various condom use groups (100%, 5-49%, or <5%) is identical.”
- “Various studies and reviews in the past have concluded that there is insufficient evidence to support decreased rate of HPV transmission with increased frequency of condom use and with consistent condom use. In June 2000, after review of available evidence, an NIH panel on condom effectiveness concluded that HPV transmission was not reduced by consistent condom use, and subsequent published studies have not found that condoms offer protection against incidence of HPV infection. In fact, a similar study by the authors among 603 sexually active women in the same university campus showed no reduction in HPV incidence with consistent condom use, and concluded that non-penetrative sexual contact is a plausible route of transmission in virgins.”
- “The study shows that even if their partners used condoms 100% of the time, 37.8% of women would still be infected with HPV. This confirms what abstinence educators have been saying all along, that at best condoms can reduce risk but not eliminate it. On the contrary, the protective effect of abstinence and monogamy is clearly reiterated by this study. The researchers excluded those who abstained from sex during the study period – obviously assuming that HPV infection would not be found in these women. For those with partners who had no previous sexual partner, zero infections and zero cervical lesion were detected.”

(Anjum Khurshid, “Talking Points on Winer’s Article in New England Journal of Medicine on Condom Use and HPV Risk,” The Medical Institute, December 18, 2006, [www.medinstitute.org](http://www.medinstitute.org))

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**“CONDOMS HELP PROTECT AGAINST CANCER”**

“Human papilloma virus – which can cause cervical cancer, genital warts and vaginal, vulvar, anal and penile cancers – is the most common sexually transmitted disease, infecting about 80 percent of young women within five years of becoming sexually active. An estimated 630 million people worldwide are infected.”

(“Condoms help protect against cervical cancer,” MSNBC.com, June 2006, [www.msnbc.msn.com/id/13461194/print/1/displaymode/1098/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/13461194/print/1/displaymode/1098/))

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