

VULVOVAGINITIS BEFORE PUBERTY

What is it?

Vulvovaginitis is an inflammation or infection of the vagina or the vulva that often affects female infants and children. There are all sorts of reasons why this might occur. Various organisms like bacteria, yeast, fungi, parasites such as pinworms and viruses can cause vulvovaginitis. Other causes include exposure to irritating fabrics and soaps, scratches, abrasions, injuries, insertion of foreign objects into the vagina and sexual abuse. Conditions that make vulvovaginitis more likely to occur are infrequent bathing, unsanitary living conditions, diabetes mellitus and an existing pharyngitis (sore throat).

Signs and symptoms:

- * Itching, irritation, redness, pain in genital region.
- * Vaginal discharge.
- * Painful urination.
- * Sometimes bleeding is present.

Call the doctor if the condition doesn't improve within one week of treatment or if any new symptoms appear.

CALL US IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN ABUSED SEXUALLY.