



Resources ♦ Ressources

Alert: new study on neonatal herpes

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A surveillance study of neonatal herpes infection in infants younger than 60 days, begun in fall 2000 by Health Canada's Division of Sexually Transmitted Diseases Prevention and Control, is essential for collecting comprehensive Canadian data. Data are needed so policy makers can promote prevention and control program strategies and further research, and estimate the burden of illness in the Canadian population.

For purposes of the study, all pediatricians across Canada will be contacted once a month to report confirmed cases

to the Canadian Paediatric Surveillance Program (CPSP). Therefore, if you suspect a transmission of genital herpes infection from mother to infant or neonatal herpes infection in infants younger than 60 days, please alert your pediatric colleagues.



During the first phase of the project until fall 2003, nonnominal data will be collected through the CPSP. In phase 2, working in collaboration with reporting physicians, the Division of Sexually Transmitted Diseases Prevention and Control will follow up the cohorts of infants infected with herpes simplex virus, who were identified in phase 1, annually for 3 years to determine outcomes. The Division will analyze the data and send all participants annual reports and quarterly updates through the CPSP.

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