

Priority Topic: VAGINITIS

Key Features:

1. In patients with **recurrent symptoms** of vaginal discharge and/or perineal itching, have a **broad differential diagnosis (e.g., lichen sclerosus et atrophicus, vulvar cancer, contact dermatitis, colovaginal fistula)**, take a **detailed history**, and perform a **careful physical examination** to ensure **appropriate investigation or treatment**. (Do not assume that the symptoms indicate just a yeast infection.)

What you should study:

- ✓ [Vaginitis AAFP 2018](#)
- ✓ [Vaginal Discharge: Atlas of Family Medicine Chapter - you can get this through the McGill VPN](#)
- ✓ [Atrophic Vaginitis](#)
- ✓ [Colovaginal Fistula 2016](#)
- ✓ [Vulvar Cancer AAFP 2002](#)
- ✓ [Vulvar contact dermatitis 2004](#)
- ✓ [Vaginal Atrophy SOGC 2004](#)
- ✓ [Vulvar Lichen Sclerosus et Atrophicus 2017](#)
- ✓ [Vulvovaginitis SOGC Guidelines 2015](#)

Investigations:

- ✓ [Video for wet mount](#)
- ✓ [Vulvar Biopsy](#)

2. In patients with [recurrent vaginal discharge](#), no worrisome features on history or physical examination, and negative tests, make a [positive diagnosis of physiologic discharge](#) and communicate it to the patient to avoid recurrent consultation, inappropriate treatment, and investigation in the future.

3. When [bacterial vaginosis](#) and [candidal infections](#) are identified through [routine](#) vaginal swab or Pap testing, [ask about symptoms](#) and provide treatment only when it is appropriate.

4. In a child with a vaginal discharge, [rule out sexually transmitted infections](#) and [foreign bodies](#). (Do not assume that the child has a yeast infection.)

What you should study:

✓ [Common gynaecological problems in prepubertal girls AAP 2006](#)

5. In a child with a candidal infection, [look for underlying illness](#) (e.g., immunocompromise, diabetes).

We really tried to find an article about this... In the end, you will just have to remember to this point yourself. Although not about this point exactly, here is an brief, helpful article about yeast infections in children

What you should study:

✓ [Antifungal Agents for Common Pediatric Infections CPS 2008](#)

A few other interesting articles:

✓ [Recurrent Vulvovaginal Candidiasis CFP 2017](#)

✓ [Vaginitis in Pregnancy CFP 2009](#)