

sextalk.

answers to your questions about sex and relationships

factoid 61% of UA students who had sexual intercourse in the past year usually or always used a condom.

Q. My boyfriend and I were fooling around one night, and I gave him oral sex. When I was down there I felt bumps on his penis. Now I have these little bumps in my mouth. They do not hurt, and they are similar to ones I get when I have an allergic reaction to food. Do you think he gave me something, and if so what is it?

A. Without actually examining these bumps, it is very difficult to know what they are, what's causing them, or how you got them. If the bumps on your boyfriend's penis were in fact herpes lesions, then it is quite possible that you were infected by performing unprotected oral sex on him. On the other hand, if the bumps on his penis were just part of his normal skin texture (most men's penises, especially the head, are not silky smooth), then there is probably some other less worrisome explanation.

If you occasionally get bumps in your mouth in response to certain foods you're allergic to, it's possible that you had an allergic reaction to his ejaculate. This would be the most likely explanation if the bumps appeared immediately after you gave him oral sex. It may also be more of a psychological issue – perhaps you are concerned about (and even regret) having engaged in unprotected oral sex, and are now hypersensitive to any bumps that you feel in your mouth.

The best advice is to visit your health care provider and have the bumps examined. Only then will you be able to put your mind at ease and get the necessary treatment, if needed. In order to decrease your chances of facing a situation like this in the future, talk to your partner about STDs and testing prior to engaging in sexual activity. Always use protection such as a condom or dental dam when engaging in oral, vaginal or anal intercourse. And lastly, do not have sexual intercourse (anal, oral or vaginal) with someone if you are uncertain (and perhaps, suspicious) about their STD status.

Have a question? Send it to sextalk@email.arizona.edu

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