# **HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS-1**

# **WHAT IS HSV-1?**

# Herpes Simplex Virus-1 (HSV-1), also known as oral herpes, is a lifelong virus. People can have **repeated episodes of blisters,** which is called an outbreak.

# WHAT SHOULD I KNOW?

Oral herpes spreads easily from person-to-person. Most people will contract HSV-1 in their life, and there is no cure. However, many people with the virus have no symptoms.

#### **HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE HSV-1?**

Symptoms of oral herpes include painful blisters (cold sores) or ulcers (open sores) around the mouth.

During your first outbreak, you can also have flu-like symptoms including:

- Fever
- · Body aches
- Sore throat
- Headache



### **HOW CAN I PREVENT HSV-1?**



Avoid direct contact with a person's blisters and open sores.



Do not share personal items that touch your mouth.



Wash your hands with soap and water before touching your lips.

# TREATMENT TIPS

There is **no cure for oral herpes**. But you can reduce your pain, and the length of the outbreak with:

- Over-the-counter medicine.
- A medicine prescribed by your doctor if your outbreak lasts longer than 2 weeks.

# WHEN TO ASK A DOCTOR?

Talk to your doctor if you have herpes blisters for more than 2 weeks. They can prescribe you medicine that will decrease how often you have outbreaks.





