Donovanosis – the basics

What is donovanosis (donovan-osis)
- Donovanosis is a sexually transmissible infection (STI).

How do you get donovanosis?
- You can get donovanosis when you have sex with someone who has donovanosis and you don’t use a condom.
- You can also get it from oral sex.

Symptoms or signs – how would I know if I got donovanosis?
- Donovanosis can cause ulcers (sores) around the vagina, penis or anus (bum). The sores can smell bad.
- The only way of knowing whether you have donovanosis is to get tested.

Testing for donovanosis?
- Testing for donovanosis is simple and can be done at the clinic.
- Test for donovanosis as part of your health check – just ask.
- Get tested for STIs at least every six to 12 months.

What’s the treatment for donovanosis?
- Donovanosis is treated with antibiotic medicine.
- After finishing treatment, don’t have sex until all the sores have gone.

What if I don’t get treated?
- If you don’t get treated, the sores won’t go away and they’ll get bigger.
- Untreated donovanosis can lead to cancer.

Let’s look after our health and get tested for STIs. If we all test and get treated, we can stop the spread of STIs in our community.