

Max Rady College of Medicine Department of Family Medicine P228 Pathology Building 770 Bannatyne Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3E 0W3

## **Objectives:** Vaginitis

- 1. In patients with recurrent symptoms of vaginal discharge and/or perineal itching, have a broad differential diagnosis (e.g. lichen sclerosis, vulvar cancer, contact dermatitis).
- 2. In patients with symptoms of vaginitis, take a detailed history and conduct a physical examination to ensure appropriate investigations and treatments are ordered (do not assume the symptoms indicate a yeast infection).
- 3. In patients with recurrent vaginal discharge and no worrisome features found on examination or laboratory testing, make a positive diagnosis of physiologic discharge and communicate this to patients as to avoid recurrent consultations and inappropriate treatments.
- 4. When bacterial vaginosis or candida infections are identified through routine vaginal swabs or PAP testing, ask about symptoms and provide treatment only when it is appropriate.
- 5. 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).
- 6. In a child with a candida infection, look for an underlying infection (e.g. immunocompromise, diabetes).

\*Modified from CFPC's Priority Topic Objectives