By STEVE JONES Staff Writer

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome is a disease that has been getting worldwide attention in recent years.

Some think it is only the disease of homosexuals and drug users, but AIDS is assaulting mainstream America. More and more non-drug users, heterosexuals and babies are testing HIVpositive.

The U.S. Surgeon General estimates that more than 1.5 million Americans have AIDS or carry HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), the virus which triggers AIDS.

About 20 to 30 percent of all HIV carriers will contract ARC (AIDS-related complex) within a month to a few years, according to the Surgeon General's office. Most of the patients will be diagnosed with AIDS after as little as a few weeks or as long as seven or more years from infection.

The majority of all AIDS cases are still found in homosexual men and in intravenous drug users. However, heterosexual men and women are quickly becoming more at risk than ever before.

The Surgeon General states that HIV cannot be transferred by casual contact with an infected person, insect bites, kissing or through clothes. It can be transferred through sharing drug needles, any types of anal sex



Art work courtesy of S.C. Aids Education Network Inc.

(protected or not) and unprotected sex with an infected

AIDS is not present in saliva, sweat or urine. It is present in blood, semen and vaginal secretion.

Intravenously-transmitted AIDS can be avoided simply and easily. Either avoid IV drugs completely or do not share needles.

Several steps should be taken to avoid AIDS.

The best way to avoid sexually-transmitted AIDS is to abstain from sex. This, however, is not always a popular option, especially among college students. The next best thing is the use of a condom.

These condoms should be latex, not lambskin or other natural materials. Latex does not have pores which allow HIV through, as natural materials do. Also, spermicides such as nonoxynol-9 have been shown in lab tests to actually kill the AIDS

It is also imperative that lubrication be used with the condom to ensure its safety. The lubricant must be water-based, as petroleum-based products (Vasoline, baby oil, shortening) weaken the latex and may cause tears in the condom.

It is predicted that within 10 years, AIDS will become one of the leading causes of death around the world.

Sexual issues to be subject of weekly column by 'sexpert'

By LISA MOHN Carolina Life Columnist

Editor's Note: Lisa Mohn is the program director of the Open Door Health Awareness and Promotion Program at USC.

Get SMART (Sex Means Awareness Responsibility and Truth) Carolina. Wake up, Gamecocks! Are you with the program, USC? Do you know all you have to for maximum pleasure and

Sex is obviously where it's all at. It's all around us. You can't go a day without being exposed to sex-innuendos from friends, magazine advertisements and primetime television.

It's not only gut instinct and national statistics that tell us lots of students here (at USC) are having sex. Unforunately, we see a lot of negative consequences: epidemic sexually transmitted disease rates, unwanted pregnancies and date and aquaintance rape.

Knowledge isn't all it takes to insure the good without the bad

when it comes to sex, but it can't hurt. To help you Gamecocks learn all you want to about sex, this column will be a weekly feature. The format will be question and answer, giving each of you an opportunity to submit questions you want answered.

The "sexperts" at Open Door Health and Wellness Programs in the Student Health Center will be providing the answers. In the next few weeks look for the answers to

the following questions: · How do I get my partner to agree to the use of condoms?

• What's the sexual position women enjoy the most?

 Can you really get genital herpes from the cold sores on your partner's mouth?

• How do I know if I have a sexually transmitted disease?

To submit your anonymous

questions, send them to: Carolina Life

The Gamecock P.O. Box 85131 Russell House

Pregnancy

these private and public pregnancy

Abe Smith, the director at the Daybreak Crisis Pregnancy Center, said the majority of the center's patrons are between the ages of 15 and 24. She said college women face unique problems with their pregnancies.

'The main concern among the girls from USC or Benedict College usually deals with where they are going to live and if they are going to have to leave school," Smith said, noting that most dormitories do not allow children.

"They ask themselves if they can keep the news from their parents. Can they stay in Columbia during Christmas Break and through other holidays to avoid home? They usually tell someone in their families. It's a big secret to keep," she said.

Smith said the center counsels the women about how to handle the negative reactions they face when they reveal their pregnancy to friends, family and especially, the significant other. "We tell them how to calm down after those possibly negative initial reactions and how to approach the people again

with the pregnancy," she said. "The women can come here for advice, counseling, clothing, information about places they can stay and check-ups as often as they like, but it helps to have someone who knows you go through it with you," she added.

Smith said girls have come to the center pregnant as a result of being drunk at a party and not knowing who the father of the child is.

"I don't know how common it is, but in these cases, the question is not only 'who is the father?' but what do I have besides pregnancy?" she said. Sexual trans-

Center have information about mitted diseases are often an addi-

Continued from page 4

tional problem in these situations. Morphis, of the Student Health Center, said birth control with a

condom and a spermicide is 98 percent effective in preventing pregnancy as well as STDs. While the health center does not

perform abortions, they do refer women to places that do. The Daybreak Crisis Pregnancy Center, a pro-life, anti-abortion center, urges women to go to a doctor with hospital privileges if they choose to have abortions. Otherwise they may have the abortion in the emergency room and not get a hospital room, Smith said.

Morphis said the majority of women who come to the Student Health Center pregnant decide to have abortions. The 80 women per month at the Daybreak Center keep their babies.

"We try to support them if they decide to have the baby or if they decide to have an abortion," she said. Morphis also said pregnancies occuring at this time in the women's lives are extremely difficult to deal with emotionally, financially and in a hundred diffe-

rent other ways. "Sometimes they are the first person in their family to go to college, and while it may sound selfish, they don't want to give up their chance to make it "

Morphis said it is definitely possible to go through school after having the baby. "You can definitely do it. There's no law to keep people from coming to school pregnant," she said, adding that there are a lot of women with babies going to school at USC now.

The Open Door Center is available at 777-8248, the Gynecology Clinic at 777-6816 and the Daybreak Pregnancy Crisis Center at 771-6634.

Professors put new twists in sex education class

From College Press Service

Dr. Reginald Fennell goes to great lengths to make his students think about AIDS.

For example, the bearded Fennell sometimes will arrive at his Health Education for AIDS class at Miami University of Ohio dressed in a green dress with a pink hat and shoes. He will call himself Abilene Bertha Stinence, or A.B. Stinence (as in "abstinence") for short.

"Some reports in journal articles say that humor is the better way to go" when teaching about AIDS, Fennell explained.

A number of schools recently have tried to demystify the subject by trying to make it "fun."

A gorilla-costumed "King Condom" has toured the University of Texas-Austin campus to show passers-by how to put a condom on a banana. The State University of New York at Albany held a "Sexuality Week" that included a condom dance.

A private company called College Condoms sells condoms that come in school colors at the universities of Southern California, California at Los Angeles, California at Santa Barbara, San Jose University and other campuses in Arizona, Florida, Iowa and Kansas.

At Miami of Ohio, Fennell's students once handed out 1,000 coupons for novelty "Kiss of Mint" and "Gold Coin" condoms designed by Joan Scott, a Columbus grandmother who first started decorating the devices to encourage her sons to use them.

And when crossdressing isn't enough to get his students' attenti Fennell has also held contests to see who in the class can get a condom on a banana the fastest.

It's all to get students to feel more comfortable discussing AIDS, said Fennell, who added that the class has been full almost every semester since he started teaching it in January, 1988.

"I'm certainly not trying to make light of a serious disease like AIDS,"

Fennell said. "I try to do things to make my students think."

semester. More than 8 percent of sexually active students nationwide

Sex Continued from page 4

adding up to over 120 cases this suffer from chlymidia, Turner said. Nationally, chylmida effects about four million people each year, and this number is on the rise.

Turner said the real terror of STDs is that they often result in infertility or birth defects when left untreated. Emotional and physical stress, possible life-threatening illnesses, medical bills and a feeling of helplessness are just a few of the strains incurred because of

Student concerns about sexually transmitted diseases are mixed.

Freshman Ingrid Drygala said, "Women are very concerned about STDs and as a preventative measure should demand the use of a condom before engaging in sex."

"Pregnancy is a greater concern for women. With many STDs a simple shot will serve as a cure" Drygala added. "A pregnancy on the other hand would be traumatizing both mentally and emotionally, and it is a great expense."

Mike Cleland, a freshman criminal justice major, said, "I'm not worried about sexually transmitted diseases because once you know the past history of the girl you can

make the right decision."

He admitted that "there is a temptation to engage in sex before reaching that point and it becomes

Philospohy/psychology sopho-more Jeremy Miles, said he is not particularly concerned with STDs.

"All college students think they are invincible, I'm no exception. Of the five major diseases, three can be cured easily, the use of a condom will stop four of them, including AIDS.

"I feel that regardless of most guy-talk, people are for the most part monogamous. I've never met a girl who enjoyed casual sex, by that I mean sex for the sake of its enjoyment, without a romantic commitment," Miles said.

Unfortunately, statistics provided by Open Door do not support that belief — only 40 percent of males use a condom regularly. Condoms are often looked upon as an inconvenience that destroys romantic spontaneity.

Turner said a condom does not make a person immune to any disease, but when supplemented by the application of a spermicide, studies have shown the combination controls the spread of AIDS and other infectious diseases.

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