

MARCH

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. I was reading the newspaper classified ads the other day and I came across a personal plea from a male suffering from genital herpes. He was searching for a woman with the same medical problem. The ad that I read was saying in different words, "Let us improve our lives by sharing our misfortune together." Herpes, you see, is one of medicine's mysteries. There is no known cure, at least not yet.

Today we'll talk about Herpesvirus: what it is; about the problems it causes, medically and socially, like those that the classified ad suggested, and about what's being done to solve the mystery.

Before you decide this has nothing to do with you, please be advised that Herpes is not some rare malady that affects only the sexually promiscuous. In fact, the chances are better than 50-50 that you have had Herpes in one strain or another, and that you may have the virus in your body now. Please...stay tuned.

With me is Dr. David A. Baker, assistant professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the School of Medicine, State University of New York at Stony Brook. Dr. Baker is a physician. He earned his medical degree in New York's Downstate Medical Center. And he heads up a Stony Brook research team in Herpes. Dr. Baker, before we discuss the many ways that Herpesvirus affects us, we should start with a positive report and note that your research is part of a national effort that has turned up some potentially good news.

MORE MORE MORE

INTERVIEW DR. BAKER:

- Review the research in pregnant women (22 centers)
- FDA's authorization of Zovirax
- Long-term plans for this drug
- Genital Herpes: causes and effects
- Infectious: babies of infected mothers
- What other research under way or planned?

*Done with*

14:00

AFO: We'll return after this short break to talk with Dr. Baker about some more familiar forms of Herpes...like coldsores!

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

AFO: Hi. I'm Al Oickle and I'm at the State University of New York at Stony Brook with Dr. David A. Baker, a researcher/physician in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. And let me ask you listeners a question? Have you ever had a coldsore? If so, then you can say that you have had Herpesvirus. Much publicity has been given the past few years to genital Herpes. We've been talking about genital Herpes with Dr. Baker. Let's turn now to the ubiquitous Herpesvirus, the group of viruses that affect not only humans but animals, Dr. Baker.

INTERVIEW DR. BAKER:

- Cows, horses, rabbits, birds
- Why attention so focused "all of a sudden"?
- What is a virus?
- How old is Herpes?
- Describe some symptoms
- Advice for listeners

29:00

OUTRO

# DRAFT

add NL0285/Herpes research

0- STONY BROOK RESEARCH HELPS IN NEW FDA-APPROVED HERPES DRUG USE

The Federal Drug Administration announced a few days ago that it is approving the sale of <sup>oral</sup> acyclovir (the prescription drug is called Zovirax) to help control genital herpes. Among the 22 regional centers around the nation that have been testing the drug since last April is Stony Brook's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the School of Medicine.

Dr. David Baker heads the Stony Brook research team, which has been working with a group of 45 ~~males~~ <sup>men and women</sup> females for up to six months each. Half have received placebos; half have received acyclovir. In this "double-blind" testing, no one at Stony Brook knows which ~~women~~ <sup>patients</sup> are receiving the drug and which are receiving the placebo. The only identifications are locked in computer records at the control center in North Carolina.

But Stony Brook researchers have been maintaining records on changes in participants' condition. Those records show that about half the ~~women~~ <sup>patients</sup> have had no new symptoms or ~~increased symptoms~~, and ~~that some have had a lessening of symptoms~~. To get ~~more~~ <sup>recurrences</sup> ~~information~~, or to arrange an interview with Dr. Baker, call Al ~~Oickle~~, (516) 246-3580. <sup>during the treatment period.</sup>

Call Al Oickle  
246-3580  
Tuesday mornings

To get  
more