



Labial adhesions

Labial adhesions occur when the labia minora fuse and can range in severity. A girl may have complete fusion of her labia minora to only a partial segment of adhesions. This is a common disorder in females who have not undergone puberty.

The exact reason why these adhesions occur is not known but it is believed low levels of estrogen play a role. Also, females with chronic inflammation, such as dermatitis, vulvovaginitis, or incontinence, have a greater chance of having adhesions. Adhesions will typically resolve over time without any need for treatment.

Treatment is reserved for girls experiencing pain or recurrent urinary tract infections. Treatment includes applying topical ointment or estrogen cream to the affected area. For more severe cases, manually separating the adhesions may be necessary. Surgical intervention is rarely required.