

## Transcript

[On-screen Text] **Dr. Shawna Johnston Obstetrician/urogynaecologist**

[On-screen Text] **What is vaginal atrophy?**

[Dr. Johnston]

"Vaginal atrophy is an uncomfortable but common condition that affects menopausal and post-menopausal women."

"The symptoms of vaginal atrophy include vaginal irritation and dryness, painful intercourse, and sometimes even light bleeding after intercourse. There are also urinary symptoms like frequent urination, painful urination, and even recurrent urinary tract infections."

"Importantly, unlike other symptoms of menopause (like hot flashes), the symptoms of vaginal atrophy don't tend to disappear with time. In fact, they may get worse. Luckily, there are effective treatment options available that can be prescribed by healthcare providers."

[On-screen Text] **At what point should women make an appointment to see their doctors if they think they have vaginal atrophy?**

[Dr. Johnston]

"Women should talk to their doctors if they notice any of the symptoms or signs of vaginal atrophy, even if they're not sure if their symptoms do indeed relate to underlying vaginal atrophy or not. Even one symptom could indicate underlying vaginal atrophy."

"Some women may feel that there's not really any point to talking to their physician about their vaginal discomfort, but they should know that there are effective, mess-free treatment options available for this condition. Women should not have to suffer in silence with these symptoms."

[On-screen Text] **What do you think about The Big Ow campaign?**

[Dr. Johnston]

"As a practicing gynaecologist, it's wonderful to see the Big Ow campaign creating awareness about the condition of vaginal atrophy and educating women about the available treatment options. A campaign like this empowers women to identify their symptoms and seek help from those symptoms from their healthcare providers."