Syphilis Outbreak Shuts Down Porn Industry

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An outbreak of syphilis among adult film actors in Los Angeles has prompted a nationwide halt in filming to prevent further spread of the disease, The Associated Press reports. To date, a total of nine cases have been found. County health officials said more cases are likely. The Free Speech Coalition, a porn industry trade group, has asked performers to get tested for syphilis and to get penicillin shots before returning to work. The group said performers can go back to work 10 days after receiving the shots. Self-imposed work stoppages in the porn industry in 2004 and 2010 were related to outbreaks of HIV. In 2011, a work stoppage was related to a false HIV report.

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