

*If you think
you may be
infected . . .*

GET TESTED!

Gonorrhea

*Just the
Facts*

...

If you do not have a local
doctor, where can you go
for help?

**For STD Clinic
Referrals Call:**

1-800-232-4636

TTY:

1-888-232-6348

**(In English, and
en Español)**

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Gonorrhea

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted disease caused by a bacteria known as *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*.

💡 The signs and symptoms of Gonorrhea in men can include a burning sensation when urinating or a white, yellow or greenish discharge from the penis. Most women who are infected have no symptoms.

💡 Gonorrhea can be treated with antibiotics. And, if you follow your doctor or clinic's medical advice correctly, it can be cured.

💡 If detected early and properly treated, the long-term consequences of Gonorrhea can be prevented.

💡 Inadequately treated Gonorrhea in women can lead to Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID).

💡 An untreated Gonorrhea infection can facilitate transmission of (make it easier to catch) HIV between sexual partners.

💡 Pregnant women who have Gonorrhea, and are not treated, can pass the disease to their newborn child.

According to the National Institutes of Health, the highest rates of Gonorrhea are usually found among 15 to 19 year old women and 20 to 24 year old men.

💡 It is estimated that 700,000 men and women contract Gonorrhea each year.

How Is Gonorrhea Spread?

Gonorrhea is spread from person to person through the direct contact with the bacteria that causes the disease.

Except in the case where an infected mother passes the disease to her baby during delivery, Gonorrhea is spread through sexual contact with an infected individual (either oral, vaginal or anal sex).

Because it is possible to become infected by Gonorrhea and not exhibit any outward symptoms, many sexually active individuals do not know that they have Gonorrhea, and unknowingly spread the disease to other partners.

Even after successfully treating Gonorrhea, you can become reinfected with Gonorrhea if you are exposed to the disease again.

How can I protect myself from getting Gonorrhea? Although not engaging in type of sexual behavior (total abstinence) is one sure way of preventing yourself from being exposed to Gonorrhea, for most people, this is not an acceptable alternative. For sexually active men and women, some of the best preventative measures you can use to protect yourself from being exposed to Gonorrhea during sexual activity would include:

💡 Limit the number of partners with whom you engage in sexual activity.

💡 Regular and proper use of latex condoms during vaginal and rectal sexual activity will reduce your likelihood of getting Gonorrhea and/or the complications related to this disease.

If you think that you don't have to protect yourself from Gonorrhea you are wrong.

Remember . . .

All STDs are preventable, if the right precautions are taken.