

GET YOURSELF TESTED

Testing is confidential.
If you are under 18 years old,
you can consent to be checked
and treated for STIs.

What if I don't get treated?

Gonorrhea can be easily cured with antibiotics from a health care provider.

However, if gonorrhea is not treated, it can cause permanent damage:

- Your risk of getting other STIs, like gonorrhea or HIV increases.
- In females, untreated gonorrhea can increase the chances of getting pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), an infection of the reproductive organs, which can make it hard to get pregnant or carry a baby full-term.
- In males, untreated gonorrhea can lead to sterility (inability to make sperm and have children).

What about my sex partner(s)?

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted infection. If you have gonorrhea, your sex partner(s) should get tested. If they have gonorrhea, they will need to take medicine to cure it.

You can get gonorrhea again, even if you've had it before.

What if I am pregnant?

If you are pregnant, it is even more important to get tested by your health care provider and treated if you have gonorrhea. Left untreated, gonorrhea can be passed to your baby during vaginal delivery and can cause serious health problems.

- Babies are usually treated with an antibiotic shortly after birth. If a baby with gonorrhea isn't treated, they may become blind.

To learn more

Contact a health care provider or your local STI clinic.

To learn more about STIs, or to find your local STI clinic, visit www.health.ny.gov/STD.

You can find other STI testing locations at <https://gettested.cdc.gov>.



Gonorrhea



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Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted infection (STI) that is most common among 15 to 24 year olds.

Gonorrhea

Many people don't have any symptoms.



It's not unusual to have both gonorrhea and chlamydia at the same time.

What is gonorrhea?

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by bacteria that you can get from oral, vaginal or anal sex. Gonorrhea can infect the genitals (penis, vagina), mouth, and rectum. It can be prevented, and it can be cured. Without treatment, gonorrhea can cause serious damage.

How can I prevent gonorrhea?

- **Use a Condom:** Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have oral, vaginal, or anal sex. This will lower your chances of giving or getting gonorrhea. But using condoms will not totally stop your risk. This is because condoms are not 100% effective at preventing the spread of gonorrhea. Condoms do help prevent the spread of other STIs including HIV.
- **Use a dental dam:** A dental dam is a thin square of latex. It can be placed over the vagina or anus during oral sex to protect you from STIs.
- Not having vaginal, oral, or anal sex is the only sure way to avoid gonorrhea.

What if I've been exposed to gonorrhea?

Get Tested: If you are sexually active, you should get tested for gonorrhea and other STIs. It is best if you get tested before you start having sex with a new partner. Your partner should also get tested before you start having sex. Don't have sex until you get your test results. You should also get tested:

- If you think you might have been exposed to gonorrhea or another STI, or
- If you have any signs or symptoms of gonorrhea.

3-Site Testing: Gonorrhea can infect the genitals, throat, and rectum. Testing only the genitals may miss an infection you have elsewhere. You should get tested at each body site where you have sex.

Get Treated: In most cases gonorrhea is easily cured with antibiotics prescribed by a health care provider. Do not have sex until at least 7 days after you and your partner(s) finish all your medicine. This gives the medicine time to work and reduces your risk of getting gonorrhea again.

Your test results are confidential. If you are under 18 years old, you do not need your parent's consent to get tested and treated for gonorrhea and other STIs. See the back panel for information on where to get tested.

How will I know if I have gonorrhea?

Many people with gonorrhea don't have any symptoms and don't feel sick. However, gonorrhea can be spread and cause serious health problems, even without symptoms.

Common symptoms include:

- Showing no symptoms at all
- Painful, frequent urination
- Flu-like symptoms (fever, nausea, sore throat)
- Discharge /Unusual fluids from the genitals
 - Yellow-white or greenish-white discharge from the penis
 - Greenish-yellow fluid from vagina
- Vaginal spotting or bleeding between periods or during sex
- Redness and swelling of the opening of the penis
- Bleeding, itching, or pus from the rectum
- painful bowel movements
- throat infection with swollen glands in the neck

It is important to tell a health care provider if you have any of these symptoms.