

LEARN ABOUT

CHLAMYDIA



This fact sheet is for information only and is not meant to be used for self-diagnosis or as a substitute for consultation with a health care provider

What is Chlamydia?

Chlamydia is a common sexually transmitted infection (STI) that affects both men and women.

Chlamydia Can Cause Serious Health Problems

- Many people with chlamydia do not have symptoms. Even without symptoms, the infection can cause serious, long-term health problems if it is not treated
- When symptoms do appear, they may show up several weeks after having sex with someone who has chlamydia
- In women, untreated chlamydia can permanently damage the reproductive system, making it difficult or impossible to get pregnant
- It can also lead to an ectopic pregnancy, a serious condition where a pregnancy develops outside the uterus

What are the Symptoms?

- Abnormal vaginal discharge or discharge from the penis
- Burning feeling when urinating
- Pain or swelling in one or both testicles, which is less common
- Rectal pain, discharge, or bleeding

You Should Get Tested Annually If You Are:

- A sexually active gay or bisexual man
- A sexually active woman younger than 25 years old
- A sexually active woman age 25 or older who has a new sex partner, multiple sex partners, or a partner who has or has had a sexually transmitted infection
- A pregnant woman who is at risk
- In some cases, repeated testing may be recommended

Treatment

- Chlamydia can be cured with the right medicine from a healthcare provider
- Medicine stops the infection but cannot fix damage already done
- You can get chlamydia again, even after being treated
- Get tested again about three months after treatment, even if your partner was treated
- If you receive a single dose of medicine, wait seven days before having sex
- If you take medicine for seven days, wait until you have finished all doses before having sex