

LEARN ABOUT

GONORRHEA



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 Gonorrhea?

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted infection (STI) that can infect the genitals, rectum, and throat. It's very common, especially in people ages 15 to 24

Signs & Symptoms

- Pain or burning when urinating
- Increased vaginal discharge
- Bleeding between periods
- White, yellow, or green discharge from the penis
- Painful or swollen testicles (less common)
- Discharge, itching, soreness, bleeding, or pain during bowel movements

How It Spreads

- You can get gonorrhea by having vaginal, anal, or oral sex without a condom with someone who has the infection
- A pregnant woman with gonorrhea can pass the infection to her baby during childbirth

Testing

- You should get tested every year 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 with new or multiple partners, or a partner who has a sexually transmitted infection

Treatment

- Gonorrhea can be cured with the right medicine from a doctor
- Medicine stops the infection but cannot undo damage already done
- See your doctor again if symptoms last more than a few days after treatment
- Wait seven days after finishing medicine before having sex again
- You and your partner(s) should finish treatment and have no symptoms before resuming sex
- Get tested again about three months after treatment
- You can get gonorrhea again, even if you had it before and were treated