

Gonorrhea

What are the symptoms of gonorrhea?

You can get gonorrhea in the anus, eyes, mouth, throat, urinary tract, uterus, or penis. You may not notice any symptoms. If you do have symptoms, they will vary depending on what part of the body is exposed.

If you have gonorrhea you may notice the following symptoms:

- *Increased vaginal discharge*
- *Vaginal bleeding between periods*
- *Pain or burning when you urinate*
- *A discharge from your penis*
- *Painful or swollen testicles*

If you have gonorrhea in the rectum, you may notice these symptoms:

- *Itching, soreness, bleeding, a discharge from your rectum or painful bowel movements*

If you have gonorrhea in the throat, you might notice that your throat is sore.

How can I lower my risk for gonorrhea?

- *The surest way is to not have sex.*
- *Have sex with someone who is not infected and who has sex with only you.*
- *Condoms can reduce your risk of getting gonorrhea if used correctly (see other side for instructions) every single time you have sex.*
- *Washing the genitals, urinating, or douching after sex will not prevent any STD.*

How is gonorrhea treated?

- *Gonorrhea can be treated and cured with antibiotics. Make sure your partners get tested and treated.*
- *Finish all of the medicine to be sure that you are cured and do not share your medications with anyone. You need all of it.*
- *If you still have symptoms after treatment, go back and see your doctor.*
- *Get tested again 3-4 months after treatment.*

What happens if I don't get treated?

- *Gonorrhea stays in your body if it is not treated. You may have a higher risk of getting HIV if you have unprotected sex with a partner living with HIV. Gonorrhea can also spread to the blood or joints; this condition can be very serious.*
- *Gonorrhea can also spread to the uterus or fallopian tubes and cause pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). PID can cause damage that makes you unable to get pregnant, or to have an ectopic pregnancy or embryo attaching outside of the uterus.*
- *Untreated gonorrhea can be passed on to your baby during birth, causing serious health complications for babies.*

Most people who have gonorrhea don't know it; often this STD has no symptoms.

- **Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted disease (STD) that anyone who is sexually active can get.**
- **Is also known as "the clap" or "the drip."**
- **Gonorrhea is more common among teens and young adults.**
- **You can pass gonorrhea to others without knowing it.**
- **Gonorrhea is easy to treat and cure.**
- **If you do not treat gonorrhea, it can lead to serious health problems. Often, individuals with gonorrhea have other STDs.**