

DID YOU KNOW?

- Oral sex is defined as the use of the mouth, lips, or tongue to stimulate another person's genitals.
- Many people consider oral sex to be "safe" because it doesn't cause pregnancy, but did you know that almost any sexually transmitted disease (STD) that you can get on your genitals, like herpes, chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis, you can also get in your mouth during oral sex?
- This is because both the mouth and genital areas are made of mucous membranes, which make it easy for certain viruses and bacteria to enter the system.



ALLEGHENY COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH CLINIC

1908 Wylie Avenue (Hill District)
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Phone: 412-578-8081

www.achd.net

CLINIC HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday
12:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Registration starts 30 minutes
earlier



ORAL SEX AND STDs



LET'S DO IT

- At the Allegheny County Health Department's Public Health Clinic, you can receive free and confidential testing for HIV, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, and Syphilis.
- We also provide free treatment for Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Syphilis, Trich, and genital warts, as well as referrals for HIV care and referrals for PrEP.
- If you would like to be tested for oral STDs, the nurse will swab your throat to collect a sample for testing.
- Don't forget to grab a variety of FREE safer sex supplies, like internal condoms, external condoms, dental dams, lubricant, and educational materials!

TYPES OF ORAL STDS

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea

Oral symptoms include a sore, dry, or scratchy throat, and redness or sores with white spots that resemble strep throat. They can be cured with antibiotics prescribed by a doctor.

Herpes 1 + 2

Herpes is often the cause of cold sores around the mouth and lips, and sores around the genitals. While there is no cure for herpes, cold sores around the mouth are extremely common, and can be treated to reduce pain and inflammation.

HPV

This is known for causing cervical cancer and genital warts, but HPV can also cause throat cancer. While many people clear the virus by themselves within 2 years, there is a vaccine that can prevent the most dangerous strains of HPV for those under age 26.

Syphilis

The first symptom of syphilis is round, painless sores (called chancres) in or around the mouth. You may also experience swollen lymph nodes, skin rash, and fever. Syphilis can be cured with an antibiotic prescribed by a doctor.

WHAT ABOUT HIV?

In terms of HIV transmission, oral sex is "low risk," meaning that you are unlikely to get HIV from oral sex on a penis, vulva, or anus. However, having gum disease, recent dental work, or another STD in your mouth or throat can increase your risk.

SAFER SEX TIPS

USE A CONDOM

This barrier method will protect your mouth and throat while performing oral sex on a penis. At our clinic, you can get free flavored condoms for a safer, multiflavored experience!

USE A DENTAL DAM

Dental dams are thin, soft pieces of latex that protect the mouth while performing oral sex on a vulva or an anus. Dental dams come in a variety of flavors.

SPIT, DON'T SWALLOW

If you don't use a condom, it is best to limit how much fluid (like semen or vaginal fluid) enters your mouth to reduce the chance of an infection growing in your mouth or throat.

