

STD Facts

Vaginitis

(most common causes: Yeast infection, Trichomonas, Bacterial vaginosis)

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Vaginal Symptoms For Women:

- Itching, burning or pain in vagina
- More discharge than normal
- Discharge may have foul odor and/or looks different
- Some women have no symptoms

Men can acquire germs which cause vaginitis in women

- Discharge and mild discomfort in penis
- Most have no symptoms, but still spread germs

TRANSMISSION

Some forms of Vaginitis can be Spread by:

- Vaginal sex
- Oral sex
- Anal sex
- Men who carry germs which cause vaginitis

COMPLICATIONS/CONSEQUENCES

If Vaginitis Is Left Untreated:

- Uncomfortable symptoms will continue
- Men can get infections in the prostate gland and urethra
- Can be spread to other sex partners
- May contribute to pelvic inflammatory disease
- If pregnant, can lead to premature delivery

PREVENTION

Recommendations to Reduce the Spread of Vaginitis (particularly Trichomonas):

- Latex condoms, when used consistently and correctly, can reduce the risk of transmission of trichomoniasis
- Always use latex condoms during vaginal and anal sex
- Use a latex condom for oral sex on a penis
- Use a latex barrier for oral sex on a vagina or anus (dental dam or condom cut in half)
- Limit the number of sex partners
- Get a test from a doctor or other medical provider if infection is suspected
- Notify sex partners immediately if infected
- Infected sex partners should be treated (not needed for yeast infection or bacterial vaginitis)

TREATMENT

Treatment of Vaginitis:

- Vaginitis can be cured with proper medication from a doctor
- For Trichomonas, infected partners should be treated at same time
- For Trichomonas, inform doctor if you are or may be pregnant

Treatment of Yeast Infection:

- Nonprescription medication available at pharmacy should be used only by women who:
 - Have had previous yeast infections diagnosed by physician
 - Have typical symptoms of yeast infection

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Nevada State Health Division
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CDC National STD and AIDS Hotlines
1-800-227-8922; 1-800-243-7889 TTY