



Protect Yourself

Stay Safe

- Have sex with only one uninfected partner who has sex only with you.
- Use a condom with a water based lubricant during sex.
- Talk to your partner about past sex partners and needle drug use.
- Look closely at your partner for signs of a Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD).
- Not having sex is the best way to protect yourself from STDs.

Take Action

- Seek medical care if you have any symptoms of an STD.
- Get regular medical checkups to test for STDs.
- Get vaccinated for certain types of STDs.

If You Have an STD

- Wait to have sex until you finish your treatment. Ask your doctor how long you must wait before you can have sex.
- Tell your sex partner(s) about your STD.
- Be sure your partner is treated, too.

**The next move is YOURS!
Only YOU can prevent STDs!**

Want more information?

Talk with your doctor.

Call - Toll Free AIDS/STD Hotline at 1-800-322-AIDS (2437)

or call your local DHEC public health department.

Visit www.scdhec.gov/stdhiv for more information.



Know the Facts & Protect Yourself

Against Sexually Transmitted Diseases



Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)

Infections spread through unprotected sexual contact

Call the Toll Free AIDS/STD Hotline at
1-800-322-AIDS (2437)

Disease (Organism)	Usual time from contact to symptoms	Cause	Symptoms	Treatment available? (Y/N)	Vaccine available? (Y/N)	Cure possible? (Y/N)	Complications if left untreated
Chlamydia (Bacteria)	1 - 3 weeks	Unprotected vaginal, oral or anal sex; from mother to infant during childbirth	Men: Penile discharge; burning during urination; itching around penis Women: Vaginal discharge; burning during urination; or may have no symptoms	Y	N	Y	Women: Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID); infertility; complications during pregnancy Newborn infants: Pneumonia; eye infection during childbirth
Genital Herpes (Virus)	2 - 14 days	Unprotected vaginal, oral or anal sex; skin to skin contact; from mother to infant during childbirth	Painful blisters on genitals or skin; sores; flu-like symptoms; fever; swollen glands	Y	N	N	Adults: Recurrent painful sores Newborn Infants: Fatal infections
Gonorrhea or Clap/Drip (Bacteria)	1 - 30 days (2-5 days)	Unprotected vaginal, oral or anal sex; from mother to infant during childbirth	Men: White/yellow/green discharge from penis Women: Increased vaginal discharge Both: Burning during urination; rectal discharge/soreness; throat soreness	Y	N	Y	Women: PID; infertility; complications during pregnancy Men: Sterility and painful testes Newborn infants: Blindness; joint infections; death
Hepatitis A Virus or HAV (Virus)	2 - 7 weeks	Unprotected oral/anal contact; eating contaminated food	Fever; fatigue; loss of appetite; nausea; vomiting; abdominal pain; dark urine; clay-colored stool; joint pain; jaundice	Y	Y	Y	Liver cancer and death
Hepatitis B Virus or HBV (Virus)	1 - 6 months	Unprotected vaginal or anal sex; sharing needles; from mother to infant during childbirth; exposure to blood or body fluids	Fever; fatigue; loss of appetite; nausea; vomiting; abdominal pain; dark urine; clay-colored stool; joint pain; jaundice	Y	Y	Y	Liver cancer and death
Hepatitis C Virus or HCV (Virus)	2 - 26 weeks	Sharing needles; sometimes through unprotected sex; from mother to infant during childbirth	Fever; fatigue; loss of appetite; nausea; vomiting; abdominal pain; dark urine; clay-colored stool; joint pain; jaundice	Y	N	Y	Liver cancer and death
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) (Virus)	3 - 6 months	Unprotected vaginal, oral or anal sex; sharing needles; from mother to infant during childbirth; exposure to blood or body fluids	Early symptoms: Fever; rash; headache; loss of appetite; achy muscle and joints Late symptoms: Excess fatigue; weight loss; fevers; night sweats; frequent diarrhea	Y	N	N	Increased risk for infections and cancer; can result in Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
Human Papilloma Virus or HPV or Genital Warts (Virus)	3 weeks - 9 months	Unprotected vaginal, oral or anal sex	Bump or bumps in the genital area. The bumps can be small or large, raised or flat, or shaped like a cauliflower	Y	Y	N	Cervical, anal or other types of cancers
Mucopurulent Cervicitis or MPC (Chlamydia or Bacteria)	Women: 4 - 28 days	Unprotected vaginal sex	Women: Discharge; itching; burning; abdominal pain	Y	N	Y	Women: Infertility; pain in abdomen
Non-Gonococcal Urethritis or NGU (Bacteria)	Men: 1 - 3 weeks	Unprotected vaginal, oral or anal sex	Men: Milky fluid discharge from penis; burning during urination; pain and/or swelling in testes	Y	N	Y	Men: Sterility
Pubic Lice or Crabs (Louse)	8 - 10 days	Sharing clothes; skin to skin contact; close sexual contact	Intense itching; small insects or eggs (nits) on pubic hair (nits look like white specks)	Y	N	Y	Skin infections
Syphilis or "Bad Blood" (Bacteria)	10 - 90 days (21 days)	Unprotected vaginal, oral or anal sex; from mother to infant during childbirth	Painless sore usually on genitals or mouth; rash on hands, feet or chest; patchy hair loss; swollen lymph nodes	Y	N	Y	Damage to the internal organs including the brain, nerves, eyes, heart, liver, bones, and joints; complications during pregnancy
Trichomoniasis or Trich (Protozoa)	Women: 5 - 28 days	Unprotected vaginal sex	Men: irritation inside the penis; discharge; burning after urinating; Women: frothy yellow-green vaginal discharge with a strong odor; discomfort during sex/urination; irritation and itching around the genital area	Y	N	Y	Women: Complications during pregnancy