

For more information:

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CDC-INFO Contact Center
1-800-CDC-INFO
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If you have been diagnosed with any sexually transmitted disease (STD), your sexual partner(s) should be tested for HIV and other STDs, even if they have no symptoms. If you have been diagnosed with any STD, including HIV, you should have a blood test in three months to detect blood-borne infections you might have contracted at the time you tested positive for any STD.

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CHLAMYDIA

Facts & Info

What is Chlamydia?

Chlamydia is a sexually transmitted disease (STD) that is caused by *Chlamydia trachomatis*, a bacterium that can damage reproductive organs.



How do you get chlamydia?

You can get chlamydia during vaginal, anal, or oral sex with someone who has chlamydia. If you have had chlamydia and were treated in the past, you can still get chlamydia again if you have sex with someone who has chlamydia. It can also be passed from a mother to her newborn baby during childbirth.

Can chlamydia be prevented?

The only way to avoid sexually transmitted infections (STIs) is to not have vaginal, anal or oral sex. Limiting the number of sex partners and using condoms the right way every time you have sex can reduce the risk of getting chlamydia.

How is chlamydia diagnosed?

Chlamydia can be diagnosed with simple lab tests. Some can be performed on urine, or swabs from oral, vaginal and anal sites and should be done at any site there has been sexual contact.

Can chlamydia be cured?

Yes, chlamydia can be cured with the right treatment. Repeat infection with chlamydia is common. You should be tested again about three months after you are treated, even if your sex partner(s) have been treated.

How common is chlamydia in Oklahoma?

In 2018, a total of 21,974 cases were reported in Oklahoma. Of these cases, approximately 70% were female and 30% were male.

What are the symptoms of chlamydia?

- Abnormal vaginal or rectal (if you have anal sex) discharge
- Burning sensation when urinating
- Abdominal or low back pain
- Nausea
- Fever
- Pain during sexual intercourse
- Bleeding between menstrual cycles (periods)
- Discharge from the penis
- Pain and/or swelling in the testicles
- Painful intercourse
- Pain/bleeding post intercourse
- Anal pain, anal discharge, anal bleeding, anal itching

What happens if I don't get treated?

Chlamydia stays in your body if it is not treated. It can spread into the uterus or fallopian tubes and cause pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), a serious infection of the reproductive organs. PID can also cause damage that makes you unable to get pregnant. If you have untreated chlamydia, you have a higher chance of getting HIV if you have sex with someone who is HIV positive.

Chlamydia rarely causes long-term health problems. You may get an infection in the tube that carries sperm from the testes. This infection can cause pain and fever. In rare cases, this infection may prevent you from having children (sterilization).

Most people who have chlamydia have no symptoms. If you do have symptoms, they many not appear until several weeks after you have sex with a partner who has chlamydia. Even when chlamydia causes no symptoms, it can damage your reproductive system.