

NOTICE: The following document contains images and information that might not be appropriate for all audiences. This may include images that some may find disturbing and information about sexual practices and sharing needles. If you are not seeking such information or may be offended, please do not continue.

Neuro/Ocular Syphilis

Can occur at any stage of syphilis

Symptoms

- Visual changes or blindness (Uveitis)
- Hearing loss
- Headache
- Seizures
- Stroke like symptoms
- Unsteady gait,
- Acute meningitis
- Confusion
- Poor concentration
- Memory loss
- Dementia
- Psychosis
- Depression or irritability
- Muscle contractions or atrophy



Delayed or untreated symptoms can progress to permanent vision loss.

Clients with a syphilis diagnosis and neuro/ocular symptoms should be referred for an immediate ophthalmologic evaluation and lumbar puncture for VDRL screening.