

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)

STD	If Untreated	# Cases per Year	Viral	Bacterial	Signs/ Symptoms	Detection	Treatment	Prevention (must adhere to all points listed below)	Condom Effectiveness
Chlamydia	Untreated chlamydia can cause serious reproductive system damage in both women and men. ⁽¹⁾	3,000,000		X	Symptoms are mild or absent. Abnormal vaginal/penis discharge. Burning sensation when urinating. Women: Lower abdominal and back pain. Men: Burning and itching around opening of penis and/or pain and swelling in the testicles.	Specimen analysis from infected site (cervix or penis) Urine sample	Antibiotics	Health screening annually. Safe sexual behavior. Use latex condoms correctly every time you have sex. Practice sexual abstinence or limit sexual contact to one uninfected partner. Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex.	A condom put on the penis before starting sex and worn until the penis is withdrawn can help protect the male and the female partner. ⁽¹⁾
Gonorrhea	Untreated gonorrhea can cause serious and permanent problems. Women: Pelvic Inflammatory Disease; Infertility Men: Epididymitis (painful condition of the testicles that can sometimes lead to infertility); can also affect the prostate. ⁽¹⁾	650,000		X	Abnormal vaginal/penis discharge. Burning sensation when urinating. Women: Yellowish and occasionally a bloody discharge. Men: Yellowish/white discharge from penis; pain and swelling in the testicles.	Specimen analysis Blood tests Gram stain	Antibiotics	Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex. Practice sexual abstinence or limit sexual contact to one uninfected partner.	Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex. A condom put on the penis before starting sex and worn until the penis is withdrawn can help protect the male and the female partner. ⁽¹⁾
Syphilis	Untreated syphilis can damage internal organs (brain, nerves, eyes, heart, etc.), which may be serious enough to cause death. ⁽¹⁾ It is now known that the genital sores caused by syphilis in adults also make it easier to transmit and acquire HIV infection sexually. ⁽¹⁾	35,600		X	Sores (firm, round, small, and painless). Second stage: Rash that usually doesn't itch. Late syphilis: Unable to coordinate muscle movements, paralysis, numbness, gradual blindness, and dementia.	Visual inspection Specimen analysis Blood tests	Antibiotics	Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex.	Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex. A condom put on the penis before starting sex and worn until the penis is withdrawn can help protect the male and the female partner. ⁽¹⁾ However, condoms do not provide complete protection because the syphilis sores can sometimes be on areas not covered by the condom. ⁽¹⁾
Genital Herpes	Recurrent, painful genital sores in many adults, and infection can be severe in people with suppressed immune systems. Herpes can make people more susceptible to HIV infection and can make HIV-infected individuals more infectious. ⁽¹⁾		X		Mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. Blisters on or around the genitals or rectum. Flu-like symptoms (fever, swollen glands).	Visual inspection Sample from sores Blood tests	Antiviral medication	Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex. Practice sexual abstinence when symptoms or signs are present, and use latex condoms between outbreaks.	Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex. A condom put on the penis before starting sex and worn until the penis is withdrawn can help protect the male and the female partner. ⁽¹⁾ However, condoms do not provide complete protection because the condom may not cover the herpes sore(s) and viral shedding may nevertheless occur. ⁽¹⁾

Sources: (1) CDC Fact Sheets

(2) American Social Health Association and Kaiser Family Foundation: Sexually Transmitted Diseases in America. How Many Cases and At What Cost? December 1998

(3) American Cancer Society

(STDs chart continued on next page)

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(STDs chart continued)

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Genital Warts	Human papillomavirus is the cause of virtually all cervical cancer in women (93%–99.7%), which kills approximately 4,800 women per year, more than are killed by AIDS. ^(2,3)	5,000,000	X		Usually causes no symptoms. Some people get visible genital warts. They appear as soft, moist, pink or red swellings. Can be raised or flat, small or large, single or multiple.	Visual inspection Pap smear	Removal	Do not have sex with anyone who has genital sores or unusual growths in the genital area or the anus. Abstinence.	Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex. A condom put on the penis before starting sex and worn until the penis is withdrawn can help protect the male and the female partner. ⁽¹⁾ However, be aware that condoms can reduce, but not eliminate, the risk of transmission to uninfected partners. ⁽¹⁾
Hepatitis B (HBV)	Untreated Hepatitis B (HBV) can cause lifelong infection, cirrhosis (scarring) of the liver, liver cancer, liver failure, and death. ⁽¹⁾	80,000	X		Jaundice Fatigue Abdominal pain Loss of appetite Nausea, vomiting Joint pain	Physical exam Laboratory tests	Drug: Alpha Interferon and Lamivudine	Hepatitis B vaccine. If you are having sex but not with one steady partner, use latex condoms correctly every time you have sex.	The efficacy of latex condoms in preventing infection with HBV is unknown, but their proper use may reduce transmission. ⁽¹⁾
Trichomoniasis	The genital inflammation caused by trichomoniasis might also increase a woman's risk of acquiring HIV infection if she is exposed to HIV. Trichomoniasis in a woman who is also infected with HIV can increase the chances of transmitting HIV infection to a sex partner. ⁽¹⁾	5,000,000	Protozoan parasite		Abnormal vaginal/penis discharge. Burning sensation when urinating. Women: Vaginal discharge, strong odor. Discomfort during intercourse. Men: Slight burning after ejaculation. Irritation inside the penis.	Physical exam Laboratory tests	Drug: Metronidazole	Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex. Limit the number of sex partners, and do not go back and forth between partners. Practice sexual abstinence or limit sexual contact to one uninfected partner.	Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex. A condom put on the penis before starting sex and worn until the penis is withdrawn can help protect the male and the female partner. ⁽¹⁾
Pubic Lice/Scabies			Parasitic insects		Itching in the genital area. Nits (lice eggs) or crawling lice may be visible.	Visual inspection	Lice shampoo Lindane nit comb	Avoid any sexual partners until partners have been treated and infestation has been cured.	Condoms do not cover the area in which the lice/nits reside. ⁽¹⁾
HIV/AIDS	Young adults and teens continue to be at risk. At least one half of all new HIV infections are estimated to be among those under the age of 25. Most young people are infected through sex. ⁽¹⁾	40,000	X		Many people have no symptoms at all. The following may be warning signs of infection: • Profound and unexplained fatigue • Swollen lymph glands in the armpits, groin, or neck • White spots or unusual blemishes on the tongue, in the mouth, or in the throat • Red, brown, pink, or purplish blotches on or under the skin or inside the mouth	Blood test Medical diagnosis by doctor based upon specific criteria established by the CDC	Various drug combinations	Health screening annually. Safe sexual behavior. Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex. Practice sexual abstinence or limit sexual contact to one uninfected partner.	Use a latex or polyurethane condom every time you have sex. A condom put on the penis before starting sex and worn until the penis is withdrawn can help protect the male and the female partner. ⁽¹⁾

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