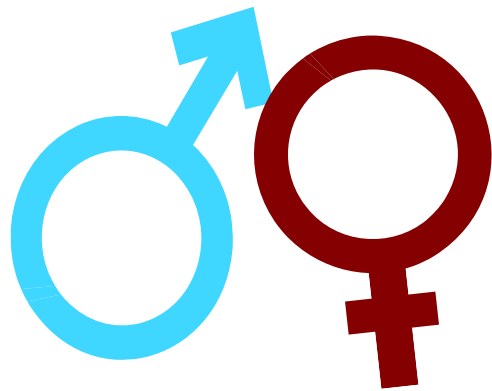


Know More About Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)



Protect Yourself
Get Tested!

HIV/AIDS

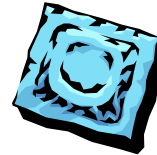
Caused by: Virus

Spread by: Vaginal, oral or anal sex, sharing needles; and from infected mother to child during birth.

Symptoms: No symptoms for many years. Some may get a flu-like illness with fever, chills, painful joints or muscles, tiredness, nausea, sore throat or headache.

If untreated: A lifetime disease with many complications.

Curable? No



If you have sex, protect yourself and use a condom!

Herpes

Caused by: Virus

Spread by: Direct skin to skin contact, vaginal, oral or anal sex with an infected person, infected mother to child during birth.

Symptoms: Most people have no symptoms. But people with symptoms will have blister-like sores on the genitals about 2 to 14 days after infection. They may have fever, and sores may break open and become painful especially if in contact with urine.

If untreated: A lifetime disease with flare-ups.

Curable? No

Common STIs

What you need to know.....

Chlamydia & Gonorrhea

Caused by: Both are caused by bacteria.

Spread by: Vaginal, oral or anal sex, and from infected mother to child during birth.

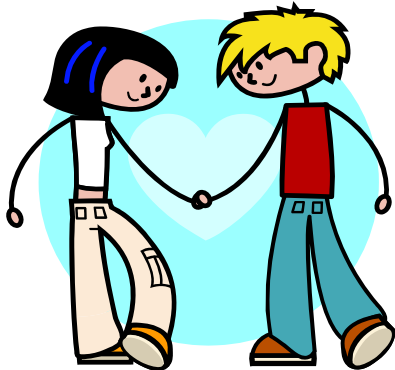
Symptoms: Most people have no symptoms but some will have:

- **Men-** burning during urination, and abnormal discharge from penis
- **Women-** often no symptoms but some have abnormal vaginal discharge, spotting, and pain during urinating

If untreated: Both can lead to Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID), an infection which causes severe lower abdominal pain and fever, and can result in miscarriage and infertility in women; and sterility in women and men.

Curable? Yes

Protect yourself and loved ones
Get tested!



Syphilis

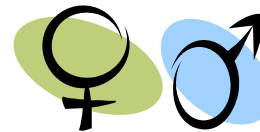
Caused by: Bacteria

Spread by: Contact with open rash or sores usually during sex.

Symptoms: Sores may appear anywhere on the body, and on or around the genitals, rectum or mouth. Sores go away on their own but you are still infected.

If untreated: Damage to the brain, heart, eyes, and other parts of the body.

Curable? Yes



Learn more about STIs

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) & Genital Warts

Caused by: Virus (there are over 40 types of HPVs; some can cause genital warts and some can increase a woman's risk of cervical cancer).

Spread by: Skin to skin contact during vaginal, anal or oral sex with an infected partner.

Symptoms: Growths, bumps or skin changes on or near the penis, vagina, vulva or anus. Itching, pain or bleeding.

If untreated: HPV can increase risk for cervical cancer in women. Genital warts can spread resulting in surgery to remove them.

Curable? No

What are STIs?

STIs are infections caused by contagious germs which are spread through sexual contact. They can cause diseases such as HIV/AIDS, herpes and genital warts. Some people have no symptoms while others feel sick. If you are infected and do not have symptoms, you can pass the germs to your sex partner. So see your doctor and get tested!



Where can I get STI testing?

You can get tested at:

- Hospitals
- Doctor's office
- Health centers
- NYC DOH Clinics

STI testing is quick and simple...

And it's often provided free or at low cost. The doctor will keep your medical information private, and they will not tell your parents if you do not want them to.

STI Prevention Tips: Protect Yourself

- Lower your risk of getting an STI by not having sex and not sharing needles.
- You and your partner should get tested before you engage in any sexual act and talk to your partner about their STI status.
- Use a condom each time you have sex and make sure it is used correctly.
- Get tested regularly for HIV and STI if you are sexually active.
- Know what the common signs of STIs are and get medical help immediately if you see or feel anything unusual.

For More Help and Information

Teen Resource Center (<http://trc.cbwchc.org/>)
(212) 226-8866 (x209)

APICHA (<http://www.apicha.org/>)
(212)-334-7940 or 1866-APICHA-9

NYC Department of Health Website on STIs
<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/std/std.shtml>
Call 311 or (212) NEW-YORK

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The content of this brochure has been reviewed by our clinical staff. The content is not a substitute for professional medical advice. See your doctor if you have questions about a medical condition.

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