

## A Teen's Guide to Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Other Infections

Infection	What are the symptoms?	How is it spread?	Is it curable?
<b>Chlamydia</b> <i>Bacterial</i>	Most often there are NO SYMPTOMS. Yellowish discharge, burning with urination, bleeding between periods, swollen or tender testicles.	Through unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex.	Yes, but it must be treated to prevent Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID), or damage to the reproductive organs.
<b>Gonorrhea</b> <i>Bacterial</i>	Most often there are NO SYMPTOMS in women. Yellowish discharge, burning with urination, stomach pain.	Through unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex.	Yes, but it must be treated to prevent other problems, like PID, or damage to the reproductive organs.
<b>Genital Herpes</b> <i>Viral</i>	Blister-like sores in the genital region or mouth.	By touching an infected area (which may not be noticeable), or having unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex.	No. Herpes is treatable, but does not go away. People with herpes can be contagious even if they are not having an outbreak.
<b>Human Papillomavirus (HPV or Genital Warts)</b> <i>Viral</i>	One type of HPV causes genital warts. Another type can cause cervical and anal cancer.	By touching or rubbing an infected area (which may not be noticeable), or having unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex.	No. HPV is treatable but does not go away. The most common types of HPV can be prevented by a vaccination of three doses. Make sure you're up to date!
<b>Pubic Lice (Crabs)</b> <i>Parasite</i>	Severe itching, small red bumps.	Through any direct physical contact and rarely through indirect contact such as a shared object.	Yes. Clothes and bedding must also be cleaned to get rid of the bugs.
<b>Trichomoniasis</b> <i>Parasite</i>	Most often there are NO SYMPTOMS in men. Itching, irritation, redness, discharge, bad smell, frequent and/or painful urination, discomfort during intercourse, stomach pain.	Through unprotected vaginal sex.	Yes.
<b>Syphilis</b> <i>Bacterial</i>	First stage: painless open sore on the penis, vagina, or mouth. Second stage: rash, fever, swollen lymph glands, sore throat, muscle aches. Final stage: damaged internal organs and central nervous system.	Through unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex, and also through kissing if there is a lesion on the mouth.	Yes.

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<b>Hepatitis A</b> <i>Viral</i>	Poor appetite, nausea/vomiting, headaches, fever, jaundice (yellow skin), dark urine, light-colored bowel movements. Sometimes there are no symptoms.	Through oral contact with feces. Through unprotected anal/oral sex, drinking contaminated water or eating contaminated food.	Does not cause a long-term infection, but symptoms can last 6-9 months. Once you have had Hepatitis A you cannot get it again. It can be prevented by two doses of a Hepatitis A vaccine.
<b>Hepatitis B</b> <i>Viral</i>	Poor appetite, nausea/vomiting, headaches, fever, jaundice (yellow skin), dark urine, light-colored bowel movements. Sometimes there are no symptoms.	Through unprotected vaginal, oral, and anal sex and through sharing dirty needles. It is spread by blood, semen, vaginal secretions and breast milk.	No highly successful treatment, but can be prevented by a Hepatitis B vaccination of three doses. Make sure you're up to date!
<b>HIV/AIDS</b> <i>Viral</i>	Weight loss, fatigue, night sweats/fever, dry cough, diarrhea, swollen glands, memory loss/confusion, depression. Sometimes there are no symptoms.	Through unprotected vaginal, oral, and anal sex, and dirty needles. Can also pass from mother to child during pregnancy or child birth, or breast-feeding.	No. Although there are many treatments which have greatly improved the health and survival of people with HIV. No proven vaccine at the current time.
<b>Bacterial Vaginosis (BV)</b> <i>Bacterial</i>	Fishy or unpleasant vaginal odor, milky-white or gray vaginal discharge, vaginal itching and burning. Sometimes there are no symptoms.	The cause of BV is not completely understood. Having multiple sex partners and douching increases your risk.	Yes, but it must be treated to prevent increased risk of other pelvic illnesses or chance of having problems with a pregnancy.
<b>Vaginal Yeast Infection</b> <i>Fungal Overgrowth</i>	Thick curd-like vaginal discharge (like cottage cheese), vaginal itching and burning, redness and irritation.	Through an imbalance of the healthy organisms in the vagina. May occur while on antibiotics.	Yes.
<b>Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)</b> <i>Bacterial</i>	Burning or pain during urination, urge to urinate frequently or after you've just urinated, fever, lower abdominal or back pain.	Through bacteria coming in close contact to the vulva or urethra. It can also be caused by an STI.	Yes, it must be treated to prevent kidney infection.

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