

# Know Your Chances

The actual chances of an STI being passed are unique to each infection. Some STIs are more common than others. You are less likely to get an infection that is not very common, even if the infection can be passed that way.

- Sometimes condoms can break or slip. If this happens, the chances of getting an STI are the same if no condom was used. Condoms are not as good at preventing infections passed by skin-to-skin contact such as syphilis, herpes and HPV.
- Body fluids like blood, semen/cum, vaginal fluid, rectal fluid and breastmilk can pass STIs. This will depend on the infection and the type of contact you may have with your sexual partner. Fluids like sweat, tears, saliva and urine do not pass STIs.
- People living with HIV can take medication to lower the amount of virus in their blood to a very low level. This is called undetectable viral load, and it means that HIV cannot be passed to others through sexual activities (also called Undetectable = Untransmissible, or U=U).
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is medication that you can take daily, or as prescribed to lower your chances of getting HIV.

The charts below can give you an idea of which sexual activities are more or less likely to pass an infection to you if your partner has that infection. The table is based on published research and reviewed by STI experts in British Columbia. It does not cover every situation or STI.

## Genital or Anal Sex

	Gonorrhea	Chlamydia	HIV	Syphilis	Herpes	HPV
<b>Penis in vagina (vaginal sex)</b>						
No condom	Easily passed	Easily passed	Could be passed	Easily passed	Easily passed	Easily passed
With condom	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed
<b>Penis in anus (anal sex)</b>						
No condom	Easily passed	Easily passed	Easily passed	Easily passed	Easily passed	Easily passed
With condom	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed
<b>Genital contact, skin-to-skin</b>						
Sharing body fluids	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed
No sharing body fluids	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Could be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed

## Oral Sex

	Gonorrhea	Chlamydia	HIV	Syphilis	Herpes	HPV
<b>Mouth on vagina</b>						
Without barrier	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Not passed	Easily passed	Easily passed	Easily passed
With barrier	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed
<b>Mouth on penis</b>						
No condom	Easily passed	Easily passed	Not passed	Easily passed	Easily passed	Easily passed
With condom	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed
<b>Mouth on anus (rimming)</b>						
No barrier	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Not passed	Easily passed	Easily passed	Easily passed
With barrier	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed
<b>Deep kissing with tongue</b>						
	Not likely to be passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not likely to be passed	Easily passed	Not likely to be passed

## Other Kinds of Sex

	Gonorrhea	Chlamydia	HIV	Syphilis	Herpes	HPV
<b>Sharing sex toys</b>						
No condom / not cleaned	Could be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed	Could be passed
With condom / cleaned	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed
<b>Masturbation</b>						
	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed
<b>Hand on penis or vulva (hand job)</b>						
	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed
<b>Fingers inside anus or vagina (fingering)</b>						
	Not passed	Not passed	Not passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed	Not likely to be passed