

STIs (and more) at a glance

BACTERIA

Infection	Where it's found	How it's passed	Common symptoms	When will the test show if I have it?	Treatment
Bacterial Vaginosis (BV)	Vagina	Not usually passed	Common to not notice symptoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased vaginal discharge Fish-like smell Vaginal irritation 	Immediately for swab test	Antibiotics Symptoms may go away without treatment
Chlamydia (CT)	Penis Vagina Anus Throat Eye (rare)	Semen Pre-ejaculate Vaginal fluids Anal fluids	Common to not notice symptoms May show up in 2 – 6 weeks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abnormal discharge Pain or trouble urinating 	2 – 6 weeks after contact for urine and/or swab test	Antibiotics
Gonorrhea (GC)	Penis Vagina Anus Throat Eye (rare)	Semen Pre-ejaculate Vaginal fluids Anal fluids	Common to not notice symptoms May show up in 2 – 7 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Symptoms occur most often in the penis Abnormal discharge Pain or trouble urinating 	7 days after contact for urine and/or swab test	Antibiotics
Lymphogranuloma Venereum (LGV)	Penis Vagina Anus Genital area Throat Lymph-nodes	Semen Pre-ejaculate Vaginal fluids Anal fluids	Common to not notice symptoms May show up in 3 days – 6 weeks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painless sores Swollen lymph nodes Abscesses 	2 – 6 weeks after contact for urine and/or swab test	Antibiotics
Syphilis	Penis Vagina Anus Genital area Throat Skin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact with a syphilis lesion (sore) during oral, anal or genital sex During pregnancy from pregnant person to the fetus Sexual fluids or a rash 	Common to not notice symptoms May show up in 3 days – 3 months <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A painless sore/lesion A non-itchy rash Swollen lymph nodes Fever, headache 	3 months after contact for blood test If lesion present, swab may show positive results earlier than a blood test	Antibiotics

VIRUSES

Infection	Where it's found	How it's passed	Common symptoms	When will the test show if I have it?	Treatment
Genital Warts/ Human Papillomavirus (HPV)	Penis Vagina Anus Genital area Throat (rare) Mouth (rare)	Skin-to-skin contact Sharing sex toys	Common to not notice symptoms May show up within weeks to years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painless bumps on the skin 	Visual exam of symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topical medications and treatments • Symptoms may go away without treatment • Vaccination can prevent some strains of HPV
Hepatitis A (HAV)	Stool	Fecal-oral contact	May show up in 2 – 7 weeks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combination of nausea, loss of appetite, fever, stomach pain, jaundice, dark urine, grey-coloured stool 	4 weeks after contact for blood test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptoms usually go away on their own • Vaccines can prevent infection
Hepatitis B (HBV)	Blood	Blood Semen Pre-ejaculate Vaginal fluids	Common to not notice symptoms May show up in 6 – 22 weeks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combination of nausea, loss of appetite, fever, stomach pain, and yellowish skin and/or eyes 	4 – 12 weeks after contact for blood test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-viral medications • Vaccines can prevent infection
Hepatitis C (HCV)	Blood	Blood	If present, may show up in 6 – 7 weeks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combination of nausea, loss of appetite, fever, stomach pain, and yellowish skin and/or eyes 	5 – 10 weeks after contact for blood test	Anti-viral medications
Herpes simplex virus (HSV)	Penis Vagina Anus Genital area Mouth	Skin-to-skin contact with a lesion	Common to not notice symptoms May show up in 2 – 21 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Itching, burning, or tingling sensation • Painful sores or blisters 	Immediately for swab test taken from sores 12 – 16 weeks after contact for blood test	Anti-viral medications
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)	Blood	Blood Semen Pre-ejaculate Vaginal fluids Anal fluids Breast milk	Common to not notice symptoms May show up in 2 – 4 weeks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flu-like illness, headache, muscle aches and joint pain, swollen glands (seroconversion illness) 	3 weeks after contact for blood test. It may take up to 3 months to get an accurate result.	Anti-viral medications
Molluscum Contagiosum	Lower abdomen, pubic area, inner thighs, buttocks and genitals; not usually on palms or soles	Skin-to-skin contact with a lesion	Show up in 1 week – 6 months <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small, firm, painless pink or white bumps on the skin 	Visual exam of symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topical medications and treatments • Symptoms may go away without treatment

PARASITES

Infection	Where it's found	How it's passed	Common symptoms	When will the test show if I have it?	Treatment
Pubic lice	Genital and other body hair	Skin-to-skin contact Sharing clothes, bedding, towels	Show up in 2 – 21 days Genital itching Visible lice in and around pubic hair	Visual exam of symptoms	Topical medications
Scabies	Skin	Skin-to-skin contact Sharing clothes, bedding, towels	Show up in 1 – 21 days Itchiness (especially at night) Rash between fingers, or wrists, armpits, genitals, thighs	Visual exam of symptoms	Topical medications
Trichomoniasis	Penis Vagina	Semen Pre-ejaculate Vaginal fluids Anal fluids	Common to not notice symptoms May show up in 5 - 28 days Abnormal vaginal discharge Pain or trouble when urinating	Urine and/or swab	Antibiotics

FUNGUS

Infection	Where it's found	How it's passed	Common symptoms	When will the test show if I have it?	Treatment
Yeast	Penis Vagina Anus Genital area	Not usually passed	Abnormal whitish, thick discharge Genital area is itchy, red, sore and dry Painful sex	Immediately for swab test Visual examination of symptoms	Over-the-counter anti-fungal medications Symptoms may go away without treatment