



Gonorrhea Fact Sheet

Gonorrhea is a bacterial infection that can be cured with the right treatment, but can lead to serious health consequences if left untreated

Symptoms: If symptoms occur, they can take up to a month to appear

In women:

- Abnormal vaginal discharge
- Burning sensation during urination
- Frequent urination
- Pain during intercourse

In men:

- Discharge from penis
- Burning sensation during urination
- Burning or itching around opening of penis
- Swelling of testicles
- Anal irritation

Transmitted through:

- Vaginal, anal, or oral sex
- Infected mother to newborn during vaginal childbirth
- Autoinoculation (infected urethral or vaginal discharge into a women's rectum)

Treatment: Can be cured

- Antibiotics prescribed by a healthcare provider
- Appropriate treatment of partner

Prevention:

- Abstinence
- Early treatment of STDs
- Appropriate use of latex condoms consistently and correctly during any kind of sex
- Appropriate use of latex barrier for oral sex on a vagina or anus

Consequences without treatment:

- Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
- Infertility
- Ectopic pregnancy
- Increased risk for HIV

Consequences without treatment in pregnancy:

- Premature delivery
- Blindness, joint infection, or a life threatening blood infection in newborns

Contact Information