

The Scoop:



Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are infections that are spread through sexual contact (vaginal, anal, oral, outer-course & genital touching). STIs are among the most common infections in the United States. About 1 in 4 Americans has an STI.

Read on to find out more about specific STIs!

Chlamydia

75% of infected women and 50% of infected men will have no symptoms from this bacteria. Symptoms can include abnormal discharge in women and ANY discharge in men, & burning or an unusual feeling during urination. If left untreated, Chlamydia can cause Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) in women and Epididymitis in men which can cause permanent problems with fertility.

This is what the STI looks like under a microscope!



Gonorrhea

This bacteria will cause no symptoms at all in some men and most women. Symptoms can include abnormal discharge in women and ANY discharge in men, & burning during urination. If left untreated, Gonorrhea can cause Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) in women and Epididymitis in men which can cause permanent problems with fertility.



Virus or Bacteria?

Bacterial STIs can be cured with antibiotic medication. There is no cure for viral STIs but the symptoms they cause can be treated.

Syphilis

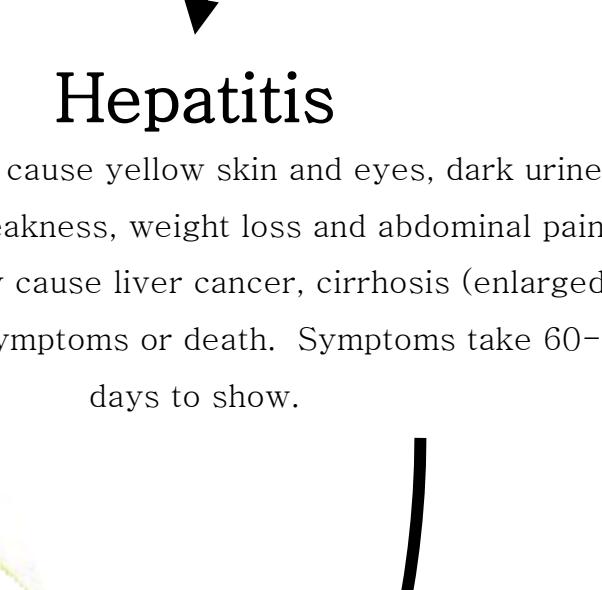
Many people do not have signs & symptoms from this bacteria for years. Three stages occur. First stage, painless sore (chancre) can appear at infected area.

Second stage, skin rash (no itching) mainly on palms of hands & soles of feet, along with fever, fatigue & swollen lymph nodes. The last stage can cause problems that may not be reversed. Symptoms begin to show in 10-90 days.



Herpes

50-80% of all Americans have HSV-1 (cold sores), & 1 out of 5 people in the United States have the genital herpes virus (HSV-2). Most people who have the infection do not have symptoms. Visual symptoms include painful blisters/sores, flu-like symptoms, fever & swollen glands 2-20 days from infection.



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for birth control choices



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