CHLAMYDIA

WHAT IS CHLAMYDIA?

Chlamydia is a common sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by a bacterium called Chlamydia trachomatis that infects men and women. It can be spread during vaginal, anal, or oral sex. Teenagers and young adults are most infected. It may also be transmitted from an infected mother to her baby at birth. It may also be transmitted from an infected mother to her baby at birth.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

1-3 weeks

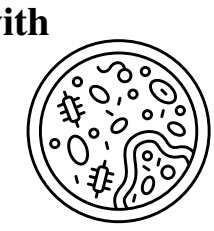
Women can experience:
- **Abnormal discharge from vagina;**
- **Frequent and painful urination;**
- **Stomach pains or pains while having sex;**
- **Bleeding between periods.**

Men can experience:
- **Watery or milky discharge from penis;**
- **Painful, burning sensation when urinating;**
- **Pain and swelling in the testicles.**

Symptoms typically appear 1-3 weeks after infection.

HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

Chlamydia can be spread once an infected person has oral, anal, or vaginal sex with a partner. Bacteria can also get passed from genital areas to other areas like the eyes. A woman infected with Chlamydia can also pass that to her newborn infant during vaginal birth.



HOW IS IT TREATED?

Antibiotics (such as doxycycline and azithromycin) are typically used to treat chlamydia. Infected individuals should avoid having sex for 7 days after the course of antibiotics.

Since reinfection can occur, individuals should be re-screened 3 months after treatment.

PREVENTION

- **Avoid having unprotected sex. Use a condom whenever having vaginal, anal, and oral sex.**
- **Limit the number of sexual partners you have.**
- **Make sure you and your partner get tested.**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION
Visit the CDC here: Chlamydia - CDC

This fact sheet is for information purposes and is not meant to be used for self-diagnosis or as a substitute for consultation with a health care professional.