

## Sexually transmitted infections (STI)

Sexually transmitted infections (or STIs) are infections that can be caught or passed on when you have unprotected sex, or close sexual contact, with another person who already has an STI.

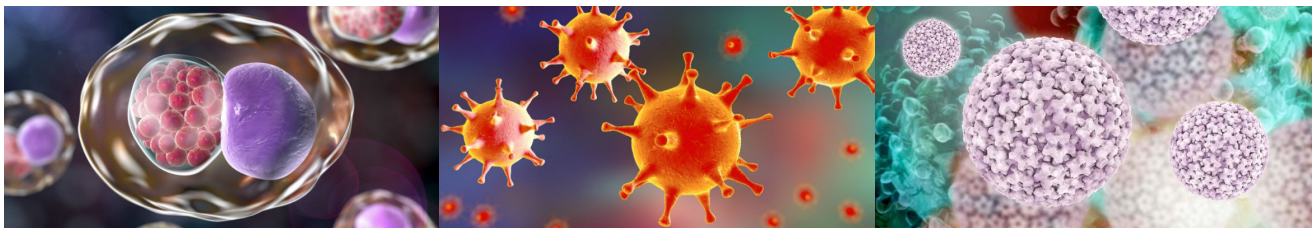
Using a condom for all types of sex is the best way to avoid STIs and HIV. Vaccines can prevent certain STIs like genital warts and hepatitis B. Reducing the number of sexual partners you have and not mixing [alcohol](#), [drugs](#) and [sex](#) also means you're less likely to get infected.

STIs should not be diagnosed yourself by looking at pictures, because symptoms vary from person to person. Only a healthcare professional can diagnose an STI.

Find out more here about different STIs, their symptoms, testing and treatment options and how to protect yourself from them.

[chlamydia crop.jpg](#)

[Herpes virus saved .jpg](#) [Genital warts](#)



**Chlamydia  
Symptoms &  
Treatment**

**Genital herpes  
symptoms &  
treatment**

**Genital warts  
symptoms &  
treatment**

Chlamydia often has no symptoms so test regularly if you are sexually active.

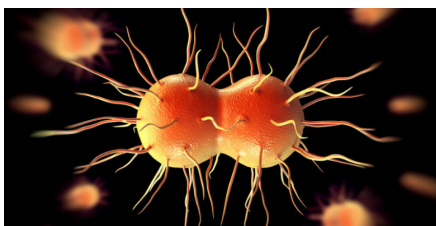
Genital herpes causes sores that are really infectious. Get treated quickly.

Genital warts can be passed on by unprotected sex and skin-to-skin contact.

[Gonorrhoeae  
bacteria.jpg](#)

[Hepatitis B](#)

[Hepatitis C](#)



**Hepatitis B  
symptoms &  
treatment**

**Hepatitis C  
symptoms &  
treatment**

## Gonorrhoea symptoms & treatment

Hepatitis B is very infectious and can seriously affect your liver. It has flu-like symptoms.

Hepatitis C is also passed on through sharing dirty needles. Symptoms are not obvious.

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Gonorrhoea is very similar to chlamydia, but less common and causes unusual discharge.

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## Syphilis.jpg

## Trichomoniasis.jpg



## Syphilis symptoms & treatment

## Trichomoniasis symptoms & treatment

Without treatment, syphilis can lead to serious health issues. Always use a condom.

Trichomoniasis is caused by tiny parasites that can infect the vagina or urethra.

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**Next full review:** 25 November 2018

**Last updated:** 16 February 2017