

Protect yourself!

- **Tell your partner(s) to get treated for gonorrhea.** If your partner isn't treated, you can get it again. Your provider can give you advice about how to help your partner get treated.
- **Do not have sex** until 7 days after you and your partner(s) are treated.
- **Go back for a test in 3 months** to see if you have another infection.
- **Use a male or female condom when you have sex.** It will protect you against gonorrhea. Your Family PACT provider can help you get condoms.
- **Make good choices.** When you get drunk or high, you may take chances. You might have sex without a condom.
- **Ask your provider about vaccines** that help protect against Hepatitis B and HPV.

Resources

To learn more about gonorrhea, call the CDC toll-free hotline at 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)

For information about the Family PACT program and providers near you, call 1-800-942-1054 or visit www.familypact.org.



Gonorrhea

What You Need to Know

What is Gonorrhea?

Gonorrhea is an infection women can get in their cervix. Women and men can also get gonorrhea in the urethra, throat or anus. At first, you may not feel sick, but later it can cause serious problems.

Some people have no signs or symptoms of the infection.

Women may have some of these signs:

- Pain or tenderness in your abdomen or pelvis
- Pain during sex
- Increased discharge from your vagina
- Bleeding between periods or during sex

Men may have some of these signs:

- Yellow, white or green discharge from your penis
- Painful or swollen testicles

Women and men may have some of these signs:

- Pain or burning when you urinate
- Sore throat
- Painful bowel movements

How did I get it?

People get gonorrhea by having sex with someone who has it. Most people who have gonorrhea don't know they have it.

- You can't tell by looking at someone if they have gonorrhea.
- The only way to know for sure is to be tested by a health care provider.

What should I do?

Get treated.

Your Family PACT provider will give you medicine that will cure it.

What else do I need to know?

Do what your Family PACT provider tells you to do:

- Make sure anyone you have had sex with in the last 60 days gets treated. Ask your provider how your partner can get treated.
- Do not have sex until you and your partner(s) are treated.
- After treatment, wait 7 days to have sex.

Call your provider right away if you:

- Vomit within 2 hours after you take the medicine.
- Get a body rash.

Go back to your Family PACT provider in 3 months.

- Your provider will ask you to come back for another test. This helps your provider know if you got gonorrhea again.
- Your provider may offer to test you for other infections that people get from having sex. You can have more than one infection at a time.
- Having gonorrhea increases your chance of getting HIV or giving it to your partner(s).

Why should I get treated?

If you don't get treated, you may:

- Spread it to other people you have sex with.
- Not be able to have children later on.

Women who don't get treated may have other problems. You may:

- Get an infection in your tubes. This is called Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID).
- Have a pregnancy in your tubes.
- Pass it on to your baby at birth if you are pregnant. It can harm your baby's eyes and lungs.

Taking the medicine helps prevent these health problems. Make sure you and your partner get treated.