

## GONORRHEA

Gonorrhea is a common sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by the *bacterium Neisseria gonorrhoeae*.

<b>What is Gonorrhea?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common infection among both men and women ages 15-24 years</li> <li>• Cause infections in the genitals, rectum, and throat</li> </ul>
<b>How is Gonorrhea Spread?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gonorrhea can be spread through vaginal, anal, or sex with someone who already has gonorrhea</li> <li>• Gonorrhea can be passed from pregnant mother to baby during childbirth</li> </ul>
<b>Signs and Symptoms of Gonorrhea</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women with symptoms may notice:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ increased vaginal discharge</li> <li>○ a painful or burning sensation when urinating</li> <li>○ vaginal bleeding between periods</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Men with symptoms may notice:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ a discharge from their penis</li> <li>○ a burning sensation when urinating</li> <li>○ pain and swelling in one or both testicles</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Rectal infections in both men and women may or may not cause symptoms:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ discharge, anal itching, soreness</li> <li>○ bleeding or painful bowel movements</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>How is Gonorrhea Diagnosed?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urine test</li> <li>• Throat and/or rectal swabs</li> </ul>
<b>Risk Factors for Gonorrhea</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anyone who has unprotected vaginal, anal or oral sex can get Gonorrhea</li> <li>• Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men</li> </ul>
<b>What Happens if Gonorrhea is Not Treated?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infertility</li> <li>• Ectopic Pregnancy</li> <li>• Long-term pelvic/abdominal pain</li> <li>• Scar tissue formation that blocks fallopian tubes</li> </ul>
<b>How Can Gonorrhea Infection be Avoided?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abstinence</li> <li>• Use condoms (male and female condoms are available)</li> </ul>