STIs: What You Need to Know

WHAT IS AN STI?

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs), also known as sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), are passed to another person during vaginal, anal and oral sex. **All STIs can be treated and most STIs can be cured.**

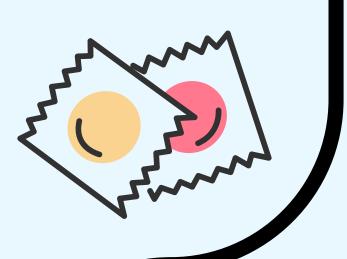


SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF STIS

- Most infections have no signs or symptoms. The signs and symptoms also depend on which STI you might have. Watch out for:
 - Sores on the mouth, genitals, rectal areas, hands, feet or torso.
 - **Burning or pain** during urination or sex.
 - **Discharge** from the penis or vagina.
 - **Swelling** of the glands in your groin.
- You are able to spread STIs to partners even when you do not have symptoms. The only way to know for sure if you have an STI is to get tested.

HOW DO I PREVENT STIS?

Use barrier protection (like condoms) the correct way every time you have sex.
<u>Get tested</u> before having sex with a new partner and ask your partner about their STI status.
Limit your number of sex partners to reduce your likelihood of exposure.







WHAT'S NEXT?

- **Knowledge is power:** Many STIs have no symptoms. The only way to know your status is to **<u>get tested</u>**.
 - Testing and treatment options are available at low or no cost.
 - You should be tested at least once a year. If you have a new partner, or partners you don't know well, getting tested more often is a good choice.
- Take medications as prescribed by your medical provider.
- Consider your partner(s): Encourage them to get tested and if you have an STI, ask your provider about medications for your partner(s) <u>(Expedited Partner</u> <u>Therapy or EPT).</u>

Learn more at: Michigan.gov/HIVSTI





The images used are for illustrative purposes only. The persons depicted in these images are models.