STD (Sexually Transmitted Diseases) FACT SHEET

STD	Symptoms	How do you get this STD?	Treatable	Curable	What can happen if you don't get treated?
Chlamydia Urethritis Cervicitis	 Asymptomatic infections are common in both men and women Symptoms show in 1 to 5 weeks Burning on urination Clear to yellow discharge Women – pain in lower belly and/or bleeding between periods or pain during sexual intercourse 	Any form of sexual activity, including oral, vaginal or anal sex	YES	YES	Spread to sexual partners Can cause conditions that are life long, including; Permanent damage to the reproductive system May not be able to have children Eye infections and pneumonia in babies born to mothers with the infection Women may develop PID, a very serious condition Can increase your chance of becoming infected with HIV if exposed to the virus
Gonorrhea	 most women and many men have no symptoms symptoms show in 2 to 60 days thick yellow / green discharge burning on urination pain in lower belly in women, spotting and/or bleeding between periods or during sex men may get swollen or pain in testicles rectal symptoms: discharge, itching, soreness, bleeding, painful bowel movements 	Any form of sexual activity, including oral, vaginal or anal sex	YES	YES	Spread to partners Can cause conditions that are life long, including: Permanent damage to reproductive system May not be able to have children Can cause heart damage, skin problems, arthritis and blindness Women may develop PID, a very serious condition Can increase your chance of becoming infected with HIV if exposed to the virus
Syphilis	 1st Stage Symptoms present in 3 to 90 days Painless sore(s) at site of first contact Sore(s) last 1 to 5 weeks, then disappear 2nd Stage Symptoms present in 1½ to 6 months after sores heal; last 2 to 6 weeks, then disappear Rash on any part of the body, patchy hair loss, flu-like symptoms 	Any form of sexual activity, including oral, vaginal or anal sex Passed from mother to fetus causing severe damage	YES	YES	Spread to partners Can cause conditions that are life long, including: Heart, brain, arthritis and damage to other organs Blindness Infant can have life threatening problems Miscarriage, if pregnant Can increase your chance of becoming infected with HIV if exposed to the virus
Genital Warts (HPV)	 Usually appear 1 to 3 months after exposure Small growths on sex organs, anus and oral cavity; may be different sizes and colors Usually painless 	Skin-to-skin contact	YES Removal helps prevent the spread of the virus	NO	 Spread to sex partners Virus stays in body for life Strong link to cancer Can be passed to baby at birth Can increase your chance of becoming infected with HIV if exposed to the virus



Niagara County Department of Health's Sexual Health Center is open Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. For more information, call (716) 278-1900



STD & HIV testing is CONFIDENTIAL and is offered to anyone 12 years of age and older.

Please bring photo I.D. and health insurance card with you to clinic. We are not able to perform STD testing if you are pregnant.

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Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) Herpes	1st Episode Painful or itchy sores Fever Flu symptoms Swollen glands in groin Sores on both sides of affected area, sex organs, buttocks, anus, thighs Recurrent Episodes Fewer sores Less severe Usually on only one side of affected area	Skin-to-skin contact Can spread to self by touching sores then touching another part of your body Virus is spread during an outbreak, but can also be spread when there are no visible sores	YES Medication can lessen severity of the outbreak	NO	 Spread to sex partners Virus stays in body for life Can transmit to baby during birth Can be spread to eyes causing major problems Can increase your chance of becoming infected with HIV if exposed to the virus
Trich	 Symptoms usually show in 4 to 20 days Yellow-green discharge, bubbly, foul odor discharge Painful urination Painful intercourse May not have symptoms 	Spread through sexual intercourse Rarely can be transmitted through wet towels, bathing suits, underwear, washcloths and toilet seats. Diagnosis can only be made on females, although males can also have the infection	YES Partners need to be treated	YES	 Spread to partners Can lead to the development of PID in women, a very serious condition Can increase your chance of becoming infected with HIV if exposed to the virus
Bacterial Vaginosis (BV)	 NOT considered an STD Sexually active women are more prone to it An infection of women only Thin, gray or white foul odor discharge Rarely irritating 	Actual cause is unknown An imbalance in the normal condition of the vagina occurs which leads to an overgrowth of "bad" bacteria and knocks out the "good" bacteria.	YES Although, many women will have frequent episodes Male sexual partners are not treated	YES	Makes you more susceptible to other STD's, PID and HIV PID can cause permanent damage to the reproductive system
Yeast	 A condition affecting women A white, clumpy cottage-cheese like discharge NO odor Severe itching Swelling and soreness of the vaginal opening Painful urination and/or painful intercourse 	NOT an STD Causes include: antibiotics, pregnancy, diabetes, numerous partners, tight pants, soaps, bath oils, douches, deodorant sprays, suppressed immune system	YES Partners are not treated	YES	Usually just a very uncomfortable condition Because of the sores, it may cause an increase in the chance of getting HIV if exposed to the virus

For more information, call (716) 278-1900