

Name of STI	What it looks like under a microscope (sketch)	Symptoms it presents in people.	How it is transmitted.	How it is treated and whether it can be cured.	Best way of preventing this STI and why this is.
Chlamydia					
Gonorrhea					
Genital Herpes					
Genital Warts					
HIV					

## Chlamydia

Chlamydia is a bacterial infection that usually does not have severe symptoms but can severely damage a woman's reproductive organs and even lead to infertility. Women who are infected with chlamydia may notice unusual vaginal discharges, vaginal bleeding, pain during sex or while urinating and/or a more general lower abdominal pain. Condoms should always be used to prevent this, until a partner has been treated and tests have come back clear.

Women infected with chlamydia can pass this infection on to their babies if they become pregnant. Men who are infected with chlamydia may notice a discharge from the penis and/or pain while urinating. A more general pain in the testes may also occur. Chlamydia can also infect the rectum, throat and eyes. It can be treated with antibiotics.

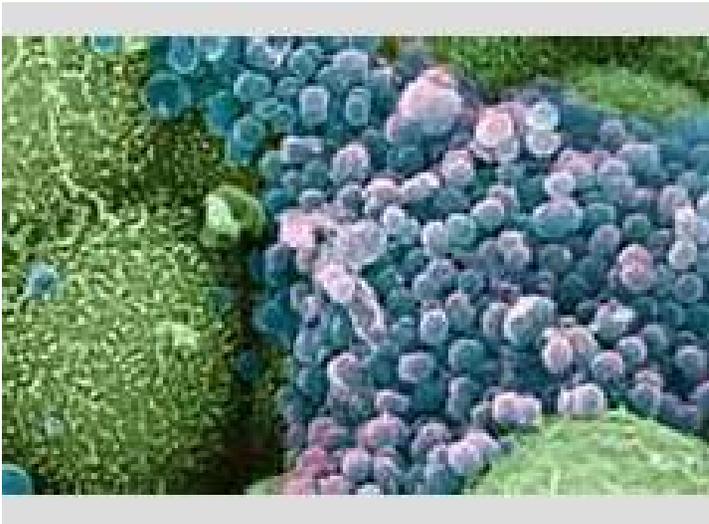
Chlamydia virus:



## Gonorrhoea

Gonorrhoea is another bacterial infection which may not have any severe symptoms. In fact, the symptoms it does bring are quite similar to those of chlamydia, including vaginal discharges and bleeding as well as pain while urinating for women and an unusual discharge and pain during urination for men. Condoms prevent the spread of Gonorrhoea.

Gonorrhoea can also infect the rectum and eyes, which might lead to symptoms of discharge and pain, as well as the throat which may not have any symptoms. Women whose gonorrhoea goes untreated will be at increased risk for damage to their reproductive organs and pregnant women can transfer this infection to their babies. Gonorrhoea may be treated with a single dose of antibiotics.



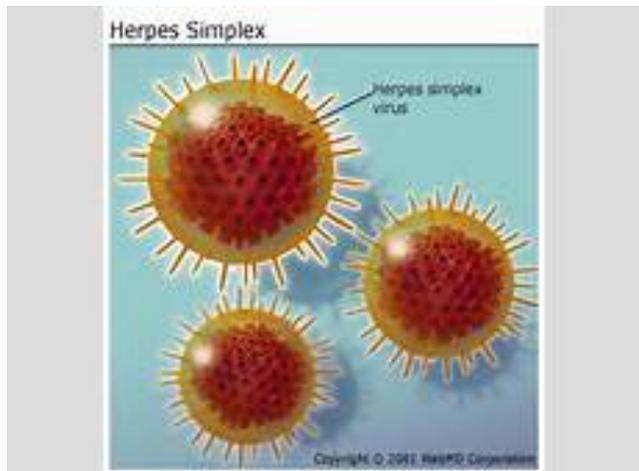
Gonorrhoea virus

## Genital Herpes

Genital herpes is a form of the herpes simplex virus, the same virus that can cause cold sores. This virus penetrates small cracks in the skin or mucous membranes and therefore can affect the mouth, vagina and rectum. Herpes is a sneaky virus and can wait quietly in the nerve cells until something triggers it and you become infectious.

Condoms prevent the spread of Genital Herpes. They should be worn throughout any sexual act with a possibly infected person.

Common symptoms of genital herpes include pain (stinging or burning) or itching in the genital area, small blisters on the genitals, buttocks or general groin areas, and pain while urinating. While there is currently no cure for genital herpes this STI can be treated with antiviral drugs to help relieve symptoms and shorten outbreaks.



## Genital Warts

Genital warts are believed to be the most common of all STIs. The human papilloma virus (HPV) causes genital warts, a few types of which can cause cervical cancer in women. Genital warts can be transmitted during sex but also during skin-to-skin contact. Most often genital warts develop on the vagina and urethra as well as on the vulva, cervix, anus, penis, and scrotum. Thankfully, we now have immunization programs (injections) to prevent this developing, but it's always best to use a condom anyway, as there are so many other STIs about as well and still not everyone has been immunized.

Though rare, warts can also be passed from the genitals to the mouth or lips during oral sex or from a pregnant woman to her baby. Some genital warts may be itchy.

There is no cure for genital warts, but outbreaks can be treated directly with creams, preparations, heat or freezing treatments and even surgery.

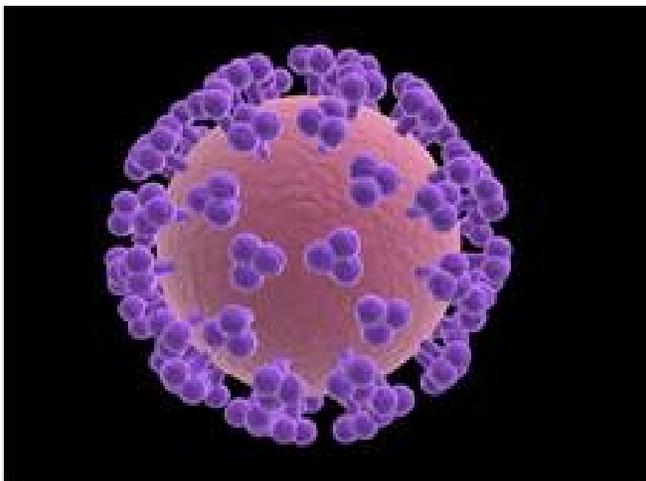


Genital warts virus

## HIV

HIV, the human immunodeficiency virus, can be passed via infected blood, semen, vaginal fluid and breast milk, and infected women can pass HIV on to their babies. The symptoms of HIV closely mimic those of the flu at first. Fevers, night sweats, swollen lymph nodes and diarrhoea can all be symptoms of HIV. A blood test can confirm the presence of HIV antibodies and therefore infection. This is the most serious of the STIs we are studying today, as the development of AIDS from HIV means the body cannot fight common illnesses anymore and a minor infection could prove deadly.

There is no cure for HIV, though antiretroviral drugs can help slow the progression of the virus. Eventually HIV can develop into AIDS or acquired immune deficiency syndrome. AIDS can be confirmed by blood tests as well. There is currently no cure for AIDS, although developments in medicine are improving life expectancy for those infected with HIV.



HIV under a microscope