

SYPHILIS:

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by bacteria. It spreads through direct contact with a syphilis sore during unprotected vaginal, anal, or oral sex. The sores can appear on the genitals, anus, lips, or mouth and often go unnoticed.



WHY YOU SHOULD CARE?

⚠️ HIDDEN THREAT: Syphilis often has no noticeable symptoms, especially in its early stages, making it hard to detect without testing.

📅 LONG-TERM DAMAGE: If untreated, syphilis can cause severe health issues, including brain damage, heart problems, and even death.

WHO NEEDS TESTING?

👥 EVERYONE WHO IS SEXUALLY ACTIVE: Regular testing is essential, especially if you have multiple partners.

👤 PREGNANT WOMEN: Syphilis can be passed to your baby, leading to serious complications.

KEY FACT!

Syphilis is curable with antibiotics, but early detection is crucial.



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DON'T WAIT!

GET TESTED FOR SYPHILIS.

Testing for syphilis is simple and could save your life. Without treatment, syphilis progresses through different stages, each more dangerous than the last.

WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT TREATMENT?

PRIMARY STAGE: Sores appear at the infection site but often go unnoticed.


SECONDARY STAGE: Rashes and flu-like symptoms may develop, then disappear even without treatment.


LATENT STAGE: The infection hides in your body, causing no symptoms for years.


TERTIARY STAGE: Serious complications arise, including damage to the heart, brain, and other organs, leading to blindness, paralysis, or even death.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

 **GET TESTED:**
Especially if you're sexually active or pregnant.

 **IF INFECTED, COMPLETE YOUR TREATMENT:**
Follow your healthcare provider's advice to cure the infection completely.

 **TALK TO YOUR PARTNER:**
Open communication is key to protecting your health.

NEED HELP?

For more information about syphilis scan the QR code on the front and to find a testing site near you, scan the QR code below.



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