

Trichomoniasis

(caused by *Trichomonas vaginalis*, a parasite)

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

For women:

- Some women have no symptoms
- Usually begin 5-28 days after exposure
- Itching, burning or pain in vagina
- Frothy, yellow-green discharge with foul odor

For men:

- Most men have no symptoms
- Mild discharge from penis
- Pain after urination or ejaculation

TRANSMISSION

Trichomoniasis can be spread:

- Between men and women through penis-to-vagina intercourse
- Between women through vulva-to-vulva intercourse

COMPLICATIONS

If trichomoniasis is left untreated:

- Infections can be spread to sex partners
- Uncomfortable symptoms will continue
- In pregnant women, can cause premature delivery and low birth weight
- It can make it easier to transmit or acquire HIV during sex

PREVENTION

- Avoiding vaginal, oral or anal sex is the best way to prevent STDs.
- Latex condoms, when used consistently and correctly, can reduce the risk of transmission of trichomoniasis.
- Always use latex condoms during vaginal sex.
- Use a latex barrier (dental dam or condom cut in half) for oral sex on a vagina or anus.
- Limit the number of sex partners.
- Notify sex partners immediately if infected.
- Infected sex partners should be treated to prevent re-infection.

TESTING AND TREATMENT

- Get a test from a medical provider if infection is suspected.
- Trichomoniasis can be cured using medication prescribed by medical provider.
- Partners should be treated at same time.

NOTE: A person can be re-infected after treatment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Minnesota Department of Health
 STD and HIV Section
 (651) 201-5414
www.health.state.mn.us/std

Minnesota Family Planning and STD Hotline
 1-800-783-2287 Voice/TTY; (651) 645-9360 (Metro)
www.sexualhealthmn.org

American Social Health Association (ASHA)
www.ashastd.org

CDC National STD and AIDS Hotlines
 1-800-CDC-INFO; 1-888-232-6348 TTY
www.cdc.gov/std

