

Protect yourself!

- **Tell your partner(s) to get treated for chlamydia.** If your partner isn't treated, you can get it again. Your provider can give you advice about how to help your partner get treated.
- **Do not have sex** until after you and your partner(s) have completed treatment.
- **Get retested in 3 months** to see if you have developed a repeat infection.
- **Use a male or female condom when you have sex.** It will protect you against chlamydia. Your Family PACT provider can help you get condoms.
- **Make good choices.** When you get drunk or high, you may take chances. You might have sex without a condom.
- **Ask your provider about vaccines** that help protect against Hepatitis B and HPV.

Resources

To learn more about chlamydia, call the CDC toll-free hotline at 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636).

For information about the Family PACT program and providers near you, call 1-800-942-1054 or visit www.familypact.org.



Chlamydia

What You Need to Know After You've Been Diagnosed (Females)

What is Chlamydia?

Chlamydia is a bacterial infection that you can get in your cervix, urethra, rectum, or throat. The longer you have it, the more likely it is to cause health problems. Chlamydia can cause pelvic Inflammatory disease (PID), an infection in the fallopian tubes. If untreated, it can cause infertility.

Most people have no signs or symptoms. The early symptoms of chlamydia can be mild.

You may have some of these symptoms:

- A discharge from your vagina that is not normal
- Belly pain when you have sex
- Bleeding between periods or after sex
- Pain or burning when you urinate
- Painful bowel movements

How did I get it?

People get chlamydia by having sex with someone who has it. Most people who have chlamydia don't know they have it.

- You can't tell by looking at someone if they have chlamydia.
- The only way to know for sure is to be tested for it.

What should I do?

Get treated.

Your Family PACT provider will give you a medicine taken by mouth that will cure it. They will prescribe doxycycline taken twice a day for 7 days or azithromycin taken just once.

What else do I need to know?

Do what your Family PACT provider tells you to do:

- Make sure anyone you have had sex with in the last 60 days gets treated. Ask your provider how your partner can get treated.
- Do not have sex until you and your partner(s) are treated.
 - If you are given doxycycline, finish the 7-day treatment before having sex.
 - If you are treated with azithromycin, wait 7 days to have sex.

Call your provider right away if you:

- Vomit within 2 hours after you take the medicine.
- Get a body rash.

Go back to your Family PACT provider in 3 months.

- Your provider will ask you to come back for another test. This helps you and your provider know if you got chlamydia again.
- Your provider may offer to test you for other infections that people get from having sex. You can have more than one infection at a time.
- Having chlamydia increases your chance of getting HIV or giving it to your partner(s).

Why should I get treated?

If you don't get treated, you may:

- Spread it to other people you have sex with.
- Get an infection in your fallopian tubes. This is called Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) and it can cause problems like:
 - Infertility (not being able to get pregnant and have children)
 - Ectopic pregnancy (a pregnancy in the fallopian tube)
 - Chronic pelvic pain

Taking the medicine prevents these health problems. Make sure you and your partner get treated.