

SYPHILIS & CONGENITAL SYPHILIS

Syphilis and congenital syphilis rates in Tennessee are rising.

How can you protect yourself and your baby?

WHAT IS SYPHILIS?



Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection. You can get syphilis by having sex (oral, anal, or vaginal) with someone who has syphilis.



Syphilis can affect anyone who has sex regardless of gender and sexual orientation.

WHAT IS CONGENITAL SYPHILIS?

Congenital syphilis is syphilis that is passed from a pregnant person to their baby during pregnancy or birth.

Congenital syphilis can cause serious health problems for your baby like:

- Death before or after birth
- Being born too early or too small
- Skin, bone, and joint damage
- Developmental delays
- Brain damage causing seizures
- Lifelong problems with eyes, ears, and teeth



If you are pregnant, you should be tested for syphilis at the 1st and 3rd trimester of your pregnancy and at birth.

HOW TO PREVENT SYPHILIS



Use condoms every time you have vaginal, anal, or oral sex.

Get tested regularly for STIs and encourage your partner(s) to do the same.

SYPHILIS TESTING AND TREATMENT

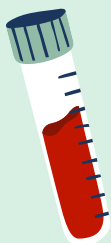
COMMON SIGNS & SYMPTOMS*



- Small sores on genitals, bottom, or mouth
- Rash on your chest, back, palms, and feet
- Flu-like symptoms
- And more

*Symptoms change as time goes on, and some people may not notice any symptoms, so getting tested regularly is very important.

HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE SYPHILIS?



The only way to know if you have syphilis is a blood test.

If you are sexually active, you should be tested for syphilis.

CAN SYPHILIS BE TREATED?

YES! Syphilis is curable with antibiotics.



- In order to prevent a baby being born with CS, **the pregnant person must receive treatment at least 30 days before delivery.**
- To prevent re-exposure, it is important that all partners are tested and treated promptly.
- Your local health department can help notify your partner(s) anonymously, test, and treat syphilis for little to no cost.



Scan to locate a health department near you!

