

What are Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)?

Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are diseases you can get by having sex with someone who has an STD. You can get STDs from any sexual activity, whether it involves the mouth, anus, vagina, or penis.

The number of people with STD infections is increasing. There are many different STDs. The most common ones in the United States are:

- Chlamydia
- Gonorrhea
- Syphilis
- Genital herpes
- Genital warts (HPV)
- Trichomoniasis
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C



A Few Facts:

- More than 19 million people in the US become infected with some type of STD every year.
- Almost half of those infected are between the ages of 15-24.
- Many STDs show few symptoms, especially in women.
- STDs can cause severe organ damage and infertility. Even though STDs respond well to treatment, some can be treated but not cured.
- Having one STD can increase the risk for acquiring other STDs.
- The correct use of condoms may prevent the spread of most STDs.