



Be Safe: Prevent Sexually Transmitted Infections

(also known as Sexually Transmitted Diseases)

There are actions you can take to protect yourself and those you love from harm. Common safety issues include sexually transmitted infections.

- Be Safe: A Healthy Living Message
https://www.prevention.va.gov/Healthy_Living/Be_Safe_Prevent_Sexually_Transmitted_Infections.asp

Department of Veterans Affairs Resources

Veterans Health Library

<https://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org>

The Veterans Health Library (VHL) offers Veterans, their families and caregivers 24/7 Internet access to comprehensive, Veteran-focused health information that's consistent with VA clinical practice. Its information, resources, and tools are engaging, "Veteran-friendly" and written in "plain language". No matter where Veterans receive care, VHL helps them understand and manage health problems, make informed health decisions, and actively partner with their health care teams. Items within the VHL on Be Safe: Prevent STIs:

- STIs: What are they?
https://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/Encyclopedia/142,82197_VA
- Chlamydia
https://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/Encyclopedia/142,85081_VA
- Gonorrhea
https://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/Encyclopedia/142,85087_VA
- Herpes

https://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/Encyclopedia/142,85089_VA

- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
https://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/Encyclopedia/142,86183_VA
- Syphilis
https://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/Encyclopedia/142,85083_VA
- Vaginal Infection: Trichomoniasis:
https://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/Search/142,85750_VA

Guides for Preventing Infections

The guides below cover sexually transmitted infections as well as other common infections. Please refer to and share this information with your family and friends to reduce the spread of infections. Talk to your health care provider if you have any specific concerns or think you have an infection.

- Women's Health: A Guide to Preventing Infections
<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/infectiondontpassiton/womens-health-guide/index.asp>
- Men's Health Guide to Preventing Infections
https://www.prevention.va.gov/docs/Mens_Health_Guide_508.pdf

HealthLiving Assessment (HLA)

<https://www.myhealth.va.gov/>

Veterans can better understand their health habits and overall health by answering a set of personalized, confidential questions. The questions cover topics like



diet, physical activity, medical history, and other personal lifestyle activities.

VA Office of Specialty Care Services National HIV Program

<https://www.hiv.va.gov/>

Links to HIV/AIDS information for the public and healthcare providers.

National Hepatitis Program

<https://www.hepatitis.va.gov>

Links to hepatitis B & C information for the public and healthcare providers.

Infectious Disease Screening and Vaccination: What You Need to Know

<https://www.hiv.va.gov/pdf/infectious-disease-screening-and-vaccination.pdf>

Includes information on several sexually transmitted infections.

Federal Government Resources

(you are leaving the Department of Veterans Affairs web site.)

US Department of Health and Human Services

Healthfinder.gov

<https://www.healthfinder.gov/scripts/SearchContext.aspx?topic=786>

Information on various types of STI testing, finding test sites and having conversations with sexual partners about testing for STIs.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Sexually Transmitted Infections–General Information

<https://www.cdc.gov/std/general>

General and disease-specific information.

STI–Health Communication–Fact Sheets

https://www.cdc.gov/std/healthcomm/fact_sheets.htm

List of common Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and links to fact sheets in English and Spanish.

The Zika Virus

<https://www.cdc.gov/zika/>

Links to a variety of information about the Zika virus, including information for pregnant women.

Addressing the Infectious Disease Consequences of the U.S. Opioid Crisis

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/budget/infographics/opioids.html>

Link to information about sexually transmitted diseases and other infectious diseases related to opioid use.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH–Sexually Transmitted Infections

<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/diseases-conditions/sexually-transmitted-diseases>

Links to a variety of information on STIs.