

# GONORRHEA (CLAP, DRIP, GC)

## WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

Most men have symptoms but one in ten men who have gonorrhea don't have any symptoms. Whether or not you have symptoms, having gonorrhea increases your risk of getting HIV (or of transmitting it if you're HIV-positive).

You can be infected in the penis, butt, or throat. Symptoms usually start two to five days after getting infected.

## SYMPTOMS INCLUDE:

- A burning sensation or pain when urinating.
- Rectal discharge, itching, soreness, bleeding, or painful bowel movements.
- A white, yellow or green penile discharge and/or painful or swollen testicles.

## HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE IT?

If you think you may have been exposed to gonorrhea, see your medical provider. He or she can do a test to see if you have it or not. The provider should test all the parts of your body you have sex with. They can have you urinate in a cup to find infection in your urethra/penis. For infection in the throat and/or the butt, they'll swab those sites.

## CAN I CURE IT?

Yes. Gonorrhea can be cured. It is a bacterium, and it can be cured with antibiotics. These medications need to be prescribed by a physician. But remember, it is also very important that all your sex partners are treated too so they don't give it back to you or others. You can catch gonorrhea again after you've been cured of it.

## ARE THERE ANY LONG-TERM EFFECTS?

In men, if gonorrhea isn't treated with antibiotics, it can cause epididymitis, which is a painful condition involving swelling of the testicles that rarely can lead to infertility.

## HOW DO I PREVENT IT?

Between men, gonorrhea is spread during oral and anal sex. Exposure to infected semen, precum, or discharge can give you gonorrhea. Putting on a latex condom before the penis touches the anus or throat every time you have sex can help prevent the transmission of gonorrhea.

Avoiding oral sex if your partner's precum is yellowish and/or cloudy can also help protect you.

## I WAS RECENTLY TOLD I HAVE GONORRHEA AND I WAS TREATED WITH ANTIBIOTICS.

## IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I SHOULD DO?

Gonorrhea infection can last for months if untreated. If you're not sure exactly when you got infected, it is a good idea to tell all your current and former sex partners from the last two months to get tested and treated. You can send an anonymous message to tell your partners they need to be tested by visiting here: [www.inspot.org](http://www.inspot.org).

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO FIND AN STD CLINIC NEAR YOU GO TO [WWW.HIVTEST.ORG](http://WWW.HIVTEST.ORG) OR [WWW.INSPO.TORG](http://WWW.INSPO.TORG).