

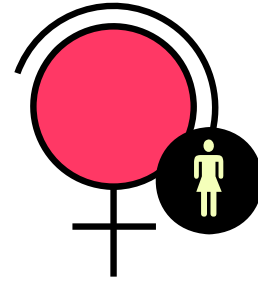


District Health Department #10
Family Planning

Bacterial Vaginosis

What is Bacterial Vaginosis?

Bacterial Vaginosis (BV) is a condition seen only in women. The cause of this condition is when the normal balance of bacteria in the vagina is disrupted and an over growth of certain bacteria occurs.



What are the symptoms of Bacterial Vaginosis?

Although some people report no symptoms, abnormal vaginal discharge with an unpleasant odor is common especially after intercourse. If present, discharge is usually white or gray. In some cases burning during urination occurs along with itching around the outside of the vagina.

Is Bacterial Vaginosis treatable?

Bacterial Vaginosis may clear up on its own without treatment, however, to avoid risk of more serious infections such as Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) anyone with symptoms should be treated. Bacterial Vaginosis is treated with the use of antibiotics.

What if I don't get treated?

Untreated Bacterial Vaginosis increases a women's risk of developing Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) and other sexually transmitted diseases such as Chlamydia and Gonorrhea. Having bacterial Vaginosis while pregnant may cause complications.

How can I prevent Bacterial Vaginosis?

Bacterial Vaginosis is most commonly seen in those who have a new sex partner or have multiple sex partners. Abstaining from sexual intercourse, limiting the number of sex partners, avoiding douching and getting regular checkups are all ways to reduce the risk of Bacterial Vaginosis.



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For more information please visit the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website, <http://www.cdc.gov/std/bv/default.htm>