

Gonorrhea

in Utah

*Gonorrhea is a highly infectious sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. Gonorrhea is transmitted through sexual contact with the penis, vagina, mouth, or anus of an infected partner and can be spread from mother to baby during childbirth. In Utah, the majority of gonorrhea cases are seen in young adults 20–34 years old. Geographically, the largest portion of Utah’s gonorrhea cases come from the Wasatch Front. People who identify as a member of 1 of Utah’s minority populations shoulder disproportionately higher rates of the burden of disease.*

How can gonorrhea be prevented?

Even though a gonorrhea infection can be treated with antibiotics prescribed by a healthcare provider, it can also be prevented. The only 100% effective way to prevent a gonorrhea infection or other STIs is to abstain from vaginal, anal, and oral sex. There are many effective methods to protect against gonorrhea and other STIs if you choose to be sexually active, including:

- ✓ Barrier prevention methods such as male/female condoms, dental dams, etc.
- ✓ Fewer sexual partners
- ✓ Practice mutual monogamy (sexual partners agree to only have sex with each other)

These types of methods can help prevent the spread of gonorrhea. Those who feel as if they may have been exposed or experience symptoms should stop having sex immediately and get tested. Those who test positive should seek treatment from a qualified medical provider.

Still have questions?

Visit us at [Catch the Answers](#) or reach out to your [Local Health Department](#).



Symptoms of gonorrhea

Symptoms in females can include:

- Painful or burning sensation when you pee
- Increased/abnormal vaginal discharge
- Vaginal bleeding between periods
- Lower abdominal pain during or after sex

Symptoms in males can include:

- A burning sensation when you pee
- A white, yellow, or green discharge from the penis
- Painful or swollen testicles

Symptoms of rectal infections for both females and males can include:

- Anal discharge
- Anal itching
- Soreness
- Bleeding
- Painful bowel movements