

The DC Health and Wellness Center

Questions? Want to get tested?

Call us to make an appointment or walk in and see us



Sexual health services for everyone in DC

The DC Health and Wellness Center provides confidential, comprehensive sexual health services to everyone who lives, works, or plays in DC.

Services are provided at low or no cost. These include: sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing, diagnosis, and treatment; PrEP; PEP; contraception; vaccines; rapid ART (HIV treatment); and mental health counseling.



202-741-7692



dchealthandwellness.org



77 P Street NE
Washington, DC 20002



Clinic Hours:
Mon Tue Wed & Fri: 9:00am-3:00pm
Thurs: 9:00am-11:30am only

Trichomoniasis

Trichomoniasis (also called "trich") is one of the most common sexually transmitted infections (STI). The infection is caused by the *Trichomonas vaginalis* parasite. Trichomoniasis can spread from a penis to a vagina, a vagina to a penis, or a vagina to another vagina. Most people who have trichomoniasis don't have symptoms and often don't know they have an infection.



Symptoms and Complications

Most people who have trichomoniasis do not have symptoms.

Those who do have symptoms might notice:

- Vaginal discharge that is yellow or green in color, has a "fishy" odor, or is thinner than usual
- Discharge from the penis
- Burning, irritation, itchiness, or redness of the penis or vagina
- Burning or pain with urination
- Pain during sex

If you are pregnant and you have trichomoniasis, the infection can cause serious complications with your baby, including prematurity (baby born too early) and low birthweight (baby born too small).



Testing

Who should get tested for trichomoniasis?

- Unlike some other STIs, trichomoniasis is not typically screened for. If you have symptoms, or if your partner tests positive for trichomoniasis, talk with your clinician and ask to get tested.

Trichomoniasis Testing:

- Your clinician may take a swab of discharge from your penis or vagina and look under a microscope to see if there is an infection.
- This swab may also be sent to a lab for further testing.
- A urine test can also be used to see if you have trichomoniasis.



Treatment and Prevention

Trichomoniasis Treatment

- Antibiotics can cure trichomoniasis.
- Your clinician will usually prescribe antibiotics called metronidazole (for one week) or tinidazole (for a single dose).
- Be sure to take all of your antibiotics!

Prevention Tips

- Tell your partners to get tested. If your partners have trichomoniasis and don't get treated, they can pass the infection back to you, or on to someone else.
- Use condoms - they are very good at preventing trichomoniasis.
- Limit the number of sex partners you have.
- Avoid sex for 7-10 days after you and your partner(s) have been treated.