

Trichomoniasis (Trich)

District of Columbia
Department of Health
STD Control Program

FACT SHEET

S.E. STD Clinic

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**Prevention
Protects
Your
Health**

Trichomoniasis is a common sexually transmitted disease that is caused by a single-celled protozoan parasite called, *Trichomonas vaginalis*. The infection can be transmitted from person to person during unprotected vaginal sex. It can also be transmitted during vulva to vulva contact with an infected partner. Pregnant women who have trichomoniasis may have babies who are born early or with low birth weight.

Symptoms

Men

- Most men have no symptoms of the infection
- Some men may have irritation inside penis, mild discharge, irritation inside of the penis, or a mild burning sensation after urination

Women

- Vaginal discharge that is usually foamy and foul smelling
- Vaginal itching and irritation
- Redness and swelling on the outside of vaginal area
- Painful when having sex

Testing

- Trichomoniasis can be identified in **female patients** by viewing the sample of discharge under the microscope.

Treatment

- Trichomoniasis is commonly treated by an antibiotic called Flagyl (Metronidazole). This medication interacts with alcohol and can cause unpleasant side effects.

Prevention Tips

- Avoid unprotected sexual contact. Always use condoms.
- Have only one sex partner
- If you are treated for trichomoniasis, notify your sex partners to avoid re-infection

If you have questions or think you may have Trichomoniasis stop having sex and come to the S.E. STD Clinic for a **FREE** and **CONFIDENTIAL** Assessment.



Use condoms correctly
and consistently to protect
you and your partner

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



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Government of the
District of Columbia
Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor