

A close-up, soft-focus portrait of a woman's face, showing her eyes, nose, and lips. She has dark hair and is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The lighting is warm and natural, highlighting her features.

Gonorrhea

Gonorrhea is caused by *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, a bacterium that can grow easily in the warm, moist areas of the reproductive tract, including the cervix, uterus and fallopian tubes in women and in the urethra in women and men. The bacterium can also grow in the mouth, throat, eyes and anus. Any sexually active person can be infected with gonorrhea.

Gonorrhea is a common infectious disease. It is estimated that about 600,000 people in the US are infected by gonorrhea each year. Only about one half of these infections are reported to Centers for Disease Control. In 2002, 351,852 cases were reported to the CDC.

Symptoms and signs for men include a burning sensation when urinating or a white, yellow or green discharge from the penis. In women, the symptoms of gonorrhea are often mild and many women who are infected have no symptoms. Women with mild or no gonorrhea symptoms are still at risk of developing serious complications from the infection. Untreated gonorrhea can cause permanent health problems in both women and men.

The surest way to avoid infection with any sexually transmitted disease, including gonorrhea, is to practice sexual abstinence (abstain from any sexual contact) while single. If you marry, select a partner who is not infected with an STD and remain sexually faithful during marriage. A review of 138 scientific studies by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) determined that there is no clinical proof that condoms are effective in reducing the risk of this STD.

For More Information visit: www.sexual-integrity.com/lit/

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