

Trichomonas Vaginalis Fact Sheet

What is Trichomonas Vaginalis?

Trichomonas Vaginalis is a protozoan, which is a small organism similar to bacteria. The Trichomonas protozoan can infect the vagina and urethra in women, and the urethra and occasionally the prostate gland in men.

Trichomonas is normally transmitted by vaginal, penile, oral, or anal sexual contact and intercourse.

What are the symptoms (if any)?

People with Trichomonas often have no symptoms. This is especially true for men. If symptoms are present, these may include painful urination.

Women may also suffer from vaginal discharge (which may be frothy and/or have a “fishy” odour), vaginitis and pain during sexual intercourse.

Men may also suffer discharge from their penis and the need to urinate more frequently due to irritation of the penis.

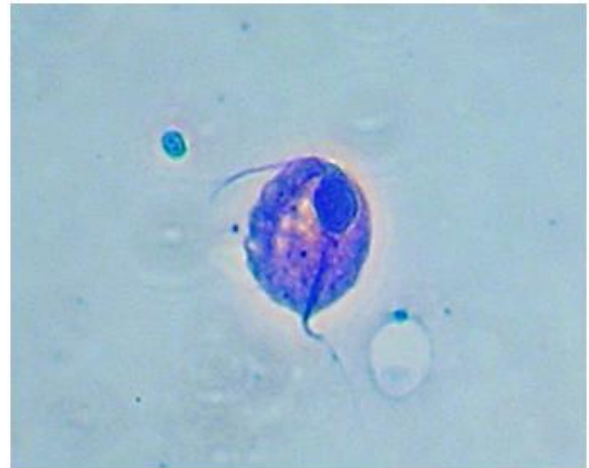
How is it treated?

Trichomonas is curable and can be treated with antibiotics.

You should abstain from sexual intercourse until your treatment is finished, and ensure that your sexual partners are also treated to avoid re-infecting each other.

What happens if you do not get treated?

If Trichomonas is left untreated, there is an increased risk of getting other STIs, including HIV.



Trichomonas Vaginalis

In women, if you have untreated Trichomonas infection during pregnancy, you have an increased risk of having an early labour and a baby with a low birth weight.

In men, Trichomonas infection can, rarely, cause Prostatitis (an unpleasant infection of the prostate gland).

Better2Know Testing Information

You should wait 14 days after any incident you are concerned about before getting tested for Trichomonas Vaginalis.

Better2Know's standard Trichomonas Vaginalis test uses a urine sample to test for Trichomonas Vaginalis. The Female Swab is a swab to identify any bacterial infection such as Trichomonas.