

Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are passed during sex.

STDs are spread from person to person by: vaginal sex, anal sex, or oral sex.

Some STDs are also spread by skin-to-skin contact. (Even skin that looks normal may be infected.)

If you have another STD, it's easier for you to get HIV.

HIV is an STD.



Most people who have HIV or another STD have no signs or symptoms.

You can't tell by looking at someone that they have an STD. You may not know you have an STD. Even if you have no signs or symptoms, you can still spread an STD to others. The only way to know for sure is to get tested.

Get tested and treated.

If you think you have an STD, visit your doctor or clinic right away. Call the numbers below to find out where you can get tested for HIV and other STDs. You can also find a testing center near you at: <http://hivtest.cdc.gov/STDTesting.aspx>

An untreated STD could lead to brain damage, heart disease, cancer, or death. STDs can make it hard for women to get pregnant. The longer you wait to get tested and treated, the more damage the disease may cause. And, the more chances you can pass the STD to others.

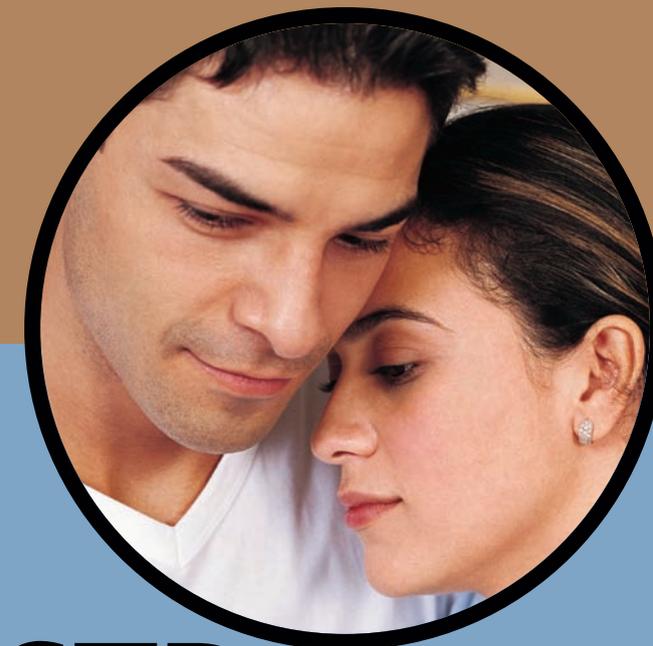
National HIV/AIDS Hotline
1-800-232-4636

New York State HIV/AIDS Hotlines:
1-800-541-AIDS (English)
1-800-233-SIDA (Spanish)
TDD: 1-800-369-2437
Voice callers can use the New York Relay System:
Call 711 or 1-800-421-1220 and ask the operator to dial 1-800-541-2437.

Websites:
health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/publications
health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/std

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State of New York
Department of Health



STD & HIV facts

Sexually transmitted diseases





1 in 4

Many people have STDs.

One in four Americans has had an STD. This means that 110 million people in the United States carry an STD and can pass it to others.



There are many STDs.

Many people think there are only two STDs—syphilis and gonorrhea. In fact, there are many STDs, like herpes, chlamydia, genital warts, vaginitis, hepatitis B and HIV.



The good news is that many STDs can be cured.

Treatment can help if you have HIV or another STD that can't be cured. Getting treated can help you live a longer, healthier life.



You can lower your chances of getting an STD.

Each time you have sex, use a latex male condom or a female condom. Make sure you use it the right way. This will lower your chance of getting an STD or HIV. Latex condoms work very well against HIV and many other STDs (like chlamydia and gonorrhea).

Get tested and treated.