

Learn the facts. Protect yourself. Get tested.

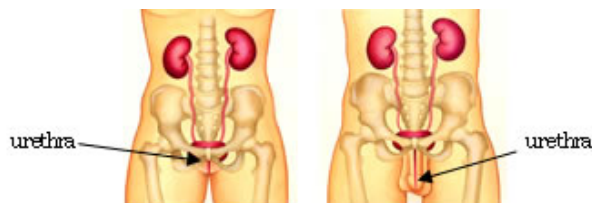
# Trichomoniasis (trik-o-ma-NYE-a-sis)

sometimes called "trich" or "trick"

## What is trichomoniasis?

It's caused by a **parasite** and may infect:

- the urethra



- or the vagina.



## How do you get trichomoniasis?

If you have vaginal sex **without a condom** with someone who has it, you can get it. It is passed through body fluids (like vaginal fluid or semen) and can be passed from one woman to another during sex.

You can't get it from:

- kissing or hugging
- shaking hands
- sharing food or using the same dish

## How do you know you have it?

**A woman may have:**

- itching
- pus or discharge coming out of her vagina
- pain or burning when she urinates or has sex

**A man usually won't have symptoms but may have:**

- discharge (thick white or watery stuff) coming out of his penis
- pain or burning when he urinates
- pain or itching inside his penis

## What is the test like?

A doctor or nurse will wipe the area with a small swab.



## How is trichomoniasis treated?

It can be **cured** by taking pills called **antibiotics** that you get from your health care provider.



Be sure your partner(s) sees a health care provider and get treated at the same time so that you don't pass the infection back and forth. You should also be sure to follow your health care provider's advice and take all of the pills you are given even if you start to feel better.

## What can you do to protect yourself?

- You can choose not to have sex
- You can reduce your number of partners if you choose to have sex
- You can use condoms when you have sex
- You can talk with your partner(s) about STDs
- You can talk with your health care provider and get tested

**To find out more about STDs (sexually transmitted diseases) or for information about where you can go to get tested, call (617) 983-6940 or visit [www.mass.gov/dph/cdc/std](http://www.mass.gov/dph/cdc/std)**

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