



Infertility

Caused by venereal diseases

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Infertility? It is avoidable!

During sex, many bacterial infections may be transmitted causing urethritis (inflammation of the urethra) in men and inflammation of the cervical canal in women in their early stage. Later on, the infection may spread towards the inner reproductive organs, the chronic inflammation of which may seriously threaten fertility. In case of suspicion, you must immediately visit a specialist in dermatology and venereology!



Chlamydia trachomatis infection – the silent disease

C. trachomatis is the most common sexually transmitted bacterial infection. In men, it causes urethritis with mucous or more rarely purulent discharge; it can also be painful, but some of those infected carry the pathogen without any symptoms.

It can be complicated with epididymitis as well.

Chlamydia infection, in the majority of cases, does not cause any symptoms in women. In these cases, the presence of the infection can only be detected with laboratory screening tests!

Urethritis may also occur in women, but the inflammation of the cervical canal is much more common, presenting with discharge, lower-abdominal complaints or with spotting after a sexual intercourse.

In the absence of treatment, the infection may lead to the inflammation of the inner lining of the womb and the Fallopian tubes, which can cause acute or chronic inflammation of the true pelvis, leading to infertility or extra-uterine pregnancy because of a scarred obstruction of the Fallopian tubes. Chlamydia infection may also be transmitted by oral and anal contact, because the pathogen colonizes the mucous membrane of the throat and the rectum as well. Infected discharge, getting into the eyes, may cause purulent conjunctivitis. Years later, the untreated, chronic infection may lead to arthritis.

All these serious diseases can be prevented by treatment performed in time, based on early Chlamydia tests.

Ask to be tested for Chlamydia, if

- you observe the above symptoms on yourself or on your partner
- you had unprotected sex with a casual partner (without a condom)
- you start a new relationship
- you are before family planning

Infections with Chlamydia trachomatis, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Mycoplasma genitalium or, Ureaplasma urealyticum detected early and treated with appropriate antibiotics, are completely curable!

Gonorrhoea (clap)

Gonorrhoea is a venereal disease transmitted by vaginal, oral or anal sex. Characteristically, in men, it causes abundant, purulent discharge and painful urination after a few days. In women, however, this infection may also be symptomless. Neisseria gonorrhoeae bacteria may infect the

mucous membrane of the urethra, the cervix, the throat, the rectum or the conjunctiva, mostly causing purulent infection there. Gonorrhoea may affect the internal reproductive organs; inflammation of the prostate or epididymis in men, of the endometrium and the Fallopian tubes in women, may develop.

Mycoplasma genitalium and Ureaplasma urealyticum infections

M. genitalium is also a sexually transmitted infection, which may cause the inflammation of the urinary tract and genitals. In case of urethritis, it is characterised by discharge and unpleasant feeling. In women, it is mostly symptomless, but as a late consequence, it can cause inflammation of the true pelvis followed with lower-abdominal pain, discharge and spotting. It can only be detected with a PCR test! Ureaplasma urealyticum may cause urethritis and prostatitis in men; vaginitis and cervicitis in women. Chronic inflammatory conditions may damage fertility in both genders.