

STDs/STIs

- STDs are diseases and infections which are capable of being spread from person to person through:
 - Sexual intercourse
 - Oral-genital contact or in non-sexual ways.
 - IV drug

BACTERIAL AND VIRAL STDS

- STDs can be caused by two different types of "germs": bacteria and viruses.
- The biggest difference between these two is that STDs that are caused by **bacteria** can be cured with medications known as **antibiotics**.
 - Most STDs are curable and, if caught early and treated, do not cause serious damage to the body.
- **Viruses**, on the other hand, have no cure.
 - The three common STDs caused by viruses are:
 1. herpes,
 2. Genital warts
 3. HIV/AIDS. **There is no effective medication.**

Symptoms


What are the symptoms? How would I know if I have been infected?

- Sores (either painful or painless)
- Blood in urine
- Burning sensation when urinating
- Rashes
- Itching
- Bumps
- Warts
- Unusual discharge (color, smell, texture...)

HIV

There are two main ways you get AIDS:

1. SEX: (unprotected) Vaginal, oral, anal, etc. sex
2. Sharing drug needles and syringes



Prevention

- Abstinence
- Know your partner
- Limit your partners
- Visit your doctor
 - Always look
 - Keep clean!

Remember:

- 3 million teens contract an STD each year – some of which have no cure
- STD's are a leading cause of cervical cancer or can even lead to infertility.