



**Luv Bugs** *Chlamydia is the most common infection among young men and women and among men who have sex with men (MSM).*

Chlamydia is a bacterial infection that can be found in the urethra, rectum, cervix, eyes, semen, vaginal fluids and rectal secretions.

An STI check-up is the best way to find out if you have an infection.

Get a free check-up at GMHS STI Clinic or your nearest STI Clinic.

***Chlamydia can be treated and cured with specific antibiotics.***

{Following treatment for Chlamydia, you can be re-infected if you are exposed to that STI again}.

***Chlamydia Symptoms***

- You can have Chlamydia and not have any symptoms.
- Symptoms of Chlamydia might show between one and 28 days after a sexual contact, such as:
  - Penis: whitish discharge, discomfort, pain or burning when peeing
  - Testicles (Balls): pain and swelling in one or both testicles (epididymitis)
  - Anus: itching, pain, discharge or bleeding (proctitis)
  - Mouth: a sore throat
  - Change in vaginal discharge; bleeding in between periods; bleeding after sex or pain during sex

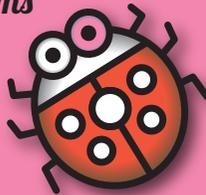
***These symptoms can be associated with other STIs or infections.***

***Chlamydia can be found in the urine, urethral secretions, vaginal discharge, the throat, the eye and the rectum.***

You can get it through:

- Unprotected sex: oral, anal or vaginal.  
{Note: ejaculation does not have to happen}.
- Close genital contact.
- Rimming or sharing fingers or sex toys.
- It can be passed from mother to baby during childbirth.

***Untreated Chlamydia can sometimes cause serious health problems in men and particularly women, like pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), which can lead to problems conceiving, an increased chance of an ectopic pregnancy and chronic pelvic pain.***



***Chlamydia transmission may be prevented by safer sex practices.***

- Use condoms for anal and vaginal sex
- Use condoms or dental dams for oral sex
- Do not share sex toys or fingers

The best way to prevent Chlamydia transmission is to get tested, and treated if required, particularly if starting a relationship where one or both of you were previously sexually active.

If you are sexually active go for a regular STI check-up.

***Having Chlamydia, or any other STI, can increase the chances of acquiring or transmitting HIV infection.***

***Free tests for Chlamydia & other STIs are available at:***



**GMHS STI Clinic**

Baggot St. Hospital, Dublin 4. [www.gmhs.ie](http://www.gmhs.ie)  
Walk-in Tues & Weds - Open 5pm to 6.30pm  
Tel: 01 6699 553 SMS 087 9410 934

**Your nearest STI/GUM clinic**

See [www.Man2Man.ie](http://www.Man2Man.ie) for a list.

***The test for Chlamydia includes a urine sample and swabs from the infected area.***

**[www.Man2Man.ie](http://www.Man2Man.ie)**

For more information on STIs and HIV in Arabic, English, French, Irish, Mandarin, Portuguese, Polish, Spanish, and Russian.

**Sexual Health Information and Support**

Gay Switchboard Ireland 01 872 1055 (seven days a week)  
Email: [ask@ghn.ie](mailto:ask@ghn.ie)



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive