

Ureaplasma Fact Sheet

What is Ureaplasma?

Ureaplasma Urealyticum is a very small bacterium that both men and women can catch and transmit to each other.

Ureaplasma infection is a little known but common STI that can be spread by vaginal, penile, oral, or anal sexual contact and intercourse.

Ureaplasma can be found in normal, healthy genital tracts, and therefore if a colony of Ureaplasma overgrows it can cause irritation, without there needing to have been any risky behaviour. So a Ureaplasma infection can also occur without being sexually transmitted.

What are the symptoms (if any)?

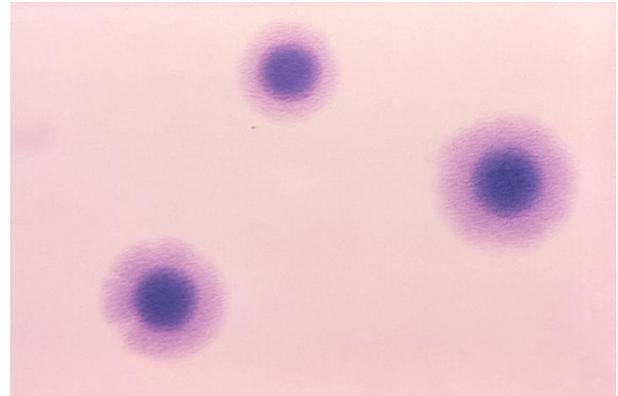
People with Ureaplasma infection often have no symptoms at the start.

When symptoms do occur, they are similar in both men and women and may include one or more of the following: burning or stinging when urinating, the need to urinate more frequently and/ or other dull ache or pain in the urinary tract or genitals, due to irritation in the genitor-urinary area.

How is it treated?

Ureaplasma can go away on its own, but it is treated with a course of antibiotics.

You should abstain from sexual intercourse until your treatment is finished, and ensure that your sexual partners are also treated to avoid re-infecting each other.



Ureaplasma Urealyticum

What happens if you do not get treated?

If Ureaplasma infection is left untreated, there is an increased risk of getting other STIs, including HIV.

There is also the increased likelihood of symptoms occurring as the infections grows, in particular urinary (NSU) and pain.

In women there is also an increased likelihood of infertility if there is a prolonged Ureaplamsa infection.

Better2Know Testing Information

You should wait 14 days after any incident you are concerned about before getting tested for Ureaplasma infection.

Better2Know's standard Ureaplasma test uses a urine sample to test for Ureaplasma infection. The Female Swab is a swab to identify any bacterial infection such as Ureaplasma.