

Gonorrhoea

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A bacterial infection (*Neisseria gonorrhoeae*) – the treatment is with antibiotics. Gonorrhoea is today less frequent than it has been in the past.

The infection is usually restricted on the area where the bacteria had entered (the first manifestations are usually headache and anus infection), however, it could be spread by blood circulation to the other parts of the body, like joints, heart valves and brain.

Women – the infection could be spread from the vagina to the oviduct that could result in infection of the small pelvis. If not treated, the woman could become infertile because of this disruption.

Men – it could lead to testicle and seminal infection. It could also cause prostate or bladder infection. Although it is rare, gonorrhoea among men could cause blockage of the urine pipe, which leads to urination difficulties.

Children – neonatal ophthalmic may develop. It is a strong eye infection that could cause blindness as a consequence (transmit during labor through the vagina)

Gonorrhoea causes very mild or no symptoms at all, so therefore, the person may carry the infection for months. If the symptoms do occur, they are usually visible 2 weeks after the sexual intercourse with the diseased person, but, without treatment, they symptoms let up after 2 weeks, however, the person would stay diseased.

Among men, the symptoms are:

- Pus secretion from the penis
 - Painful urination
 - Among women the symptoms are:
 - Yellowish-greenish pus secretion from the vagina
 - Pain during urination
 - Pain in the lower part of the stomach
 - Irregular vaginal bleeding
 - Vomiting and a high body temperature
- The infection is confirmed by smear testing the areas that are supposed to be diseased and testing the smear for bacteria. The smear is simultaneously tested for other sexually spread diseases, like chlamidia. After treatment with antibiotics, gonorrhoea usually lets up after 3-4 days.

If the bacteria are spread throughout the entire body, a therapy with intravenous antibiotics is necessary. All sexual partners should test and treat themselves, even if they don't have any symptoms at all.