Patient Delivered Partner Treatment

Why am I getting extra medicine (or an extra prescription)?

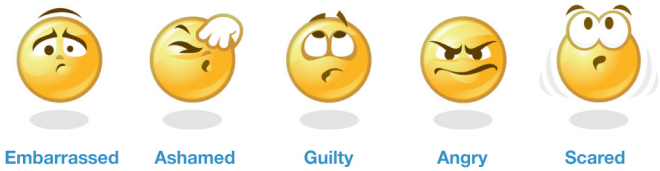
You have Chlamydia or Gonorrhea, diseases that are transmitted by having sex, and you and your partners need to be treated. **If Chlamydia and/or Gonorrhea are not treated, your partner(s) can develop serious health problems, re-infect you, or infect other sex partners.**

How do I tell my sex partner(s) I have an STD?

Telling a sex partner that you have a sexually transmitted disease (STD) like Chlamydia or Gonorrhea can be difficult, but it is the right thing to do. By offering your partner treatment, you are showing them that you care enough to help.

The best way to tell your partner is by being open and honest. You could say: **"This medicine is to treat an STD called Chlamydia (or Gonnorhea), and you should take it because I have it, and you may have it, too.** You should read the information that came with the medicine and get checked for other STDs."

Some things make it harder to tell a partner. Sometimes people who find out they have an STD feel:



These are all normal feelings to have. Your partner may have these feelings when you tell them.

What do I need to do?

1. **Get treated.**
2. **Tell your sex partner(s)** you are being treated for an STD called Chlamydia or Gonorrhea and that they may have been infected, too.
3. **Give your partner(s) the medicines** or prescription.
4. Encourage them to **read the information** you give them.
5. Encourage them to **visit a doctor, nurse or clinic** to get tested for other STDs, even if they take the medicine.

Avoiding STD Infections

STDs are common - a lot of people get infections each year. Even if you had Chlamydia or Gonorrhea before, you can still get it again. The only way to completely avoid STDs, including HIV, is to not have sex. If you do have sex, **Use a latex condom every time for every kind of sex - oral anal, and vaginal sex.**

You can reduce your chances of getting Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and other STDs, including HIV, by limiting the number of people you have sex with. The more sex partners you have, the higher your risk of getting an STD.

What if I don't give the medicine to all of my sex partner(s)?

If you don't give the medicine to all of your sex partner(s), please return it to the doctor, nurse or clinic who gave it to you. Do not save or share any medicine that was given to you for your sex partners. Your partner needs to take all of the medicine given to him or her for it to work.

What if my sex partner blames me?

A lot of people worry about their partner blaming them for giving them an STD like Chlamydia or Gonorrhea. You may never know where the Chlamydia or Gonorrhea came from. Remember, Chlamydia and Gonorrhea don't always have symptoms so people can have it for a long time and not know it. The important thing is telling your partner about the infection, taking steps to get healthy, and avoiding future STDs. If your partner blames you and you experience domestic or partner violence, please call 1-800-621-HOPE or 311 for more information. If you are in danger, call 911.

What if my sex partner is pregnant, or thinks she may be pregnant?

If your sex partner is pregnant or thinks she may be pregnant, it is okay for her to take this medicine. Azithromycin and/or Cefixime will not hurt the baby but she should see a doctor or other health care provider as soon as possible to be tested for other STDs, which can be passed on from a mother to her baby during pregnancy and delivery.

What are Chlamydia & Gonorrhea?

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea are STDs that are passed through **all types of sex – oral, anal, and vaginal sex**. These infections frequently do not have symptoms, especially in women. When people do have symptoms, they can have pain or burning when they pee and pus or discharge from the penis, vagina, or anus. Even without symptoms, Chlamydia and Gonorrhea can be passed to sex partners.

Untreated Chlamydia and Gonorrhea can lead to serious health problems like infertility and Pelvic Inflammatory Disease.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: "When should I go back to the doctor?"

A: "You should visit a doctor to get retested for Chlamydia and/or Gonorrhea three months after taking the medicine to make sure you did not get the infection again."

Q: "Why do I need to give medicine or a prescription to my sex partner(s)?"

A: "Because you have Chlamydia or Gonorrhea and your partner might have it, too. Taking this medicine will cure Chlamydia or Gonorrhea and help prevent you from getting Chlamydia or Gonorrhea again."

Q: "What am I giving my sex partner(s)?"

A: "It is a medicine called Azithromycin. Azithromycin is an antibiotic that is used to cure Chlamydia. If you have Gonorrhea, you will be giving your partner Cefixime plus Azithromycin."

Q: "How will my partner know this medicine is real? What if my partner has questions?"

A: Your partner can call 311 or the phone number on the package or prescription."

Q: "My sex partner(s) does not have any symptoms. Does my partner still need to take this medicine?"

A: "Yes. Often people with STDs like Chlamydia or Gonorrhea don't have symptoms. Taking the medicine Azithromycin will cure Chlamydia. Taking the medicines Cefixime plus Azithromycin will cure Gonorrhea."

Q: "What should I do after giving my partner(s) treatment?"

A: "**DO NOT HAVE SEX (vaginal, oral, or anal) for at least 7 days** after both you and your sex partner(s) have been treated. **The medicine takes 7 days to work**. You can get Chlamydia or Gonorrhea again if you have sex before the medicine cures you and your partner(s)."

Q: "What should my sex partner expect when they go to the pharmacy to pick-up the medicine?"

A: "If you gave your sex partner a prescription for medicine to cure Chlamydia or Gonorrhea, the pharmacists may ask your partner for his or her name, address, date of birth and form of payment when the prescription is dropped off or picked up."

Q: "What if my sex partner doesn't want to take the medicine?"

A: "If your sex partner(s) doesn't want to take the medicine, he or she should see a doctor as soon as possible to be tested and treated for Chlamydia or Gonorrhea. In the meantime, you should not have sex with your sex partner(s) until he or she has been treated and the medicine has had 7 days to work. If Chlamydia and Gonorrhea are left untreated, they can lead to serious health problems."