

Everyday contact does NOT spread syphilis

You will NOT get syphilis through everyday contact with others, including:

- Sitting on toilet seats
- Swimming in public pools, or
- Sharing food or drinks

Are you at risk of getting syphilis?

Anyone who has sexual contact involving genitals, including oral sex can catch syphilis.

How can I protect myself from syphilis?

You can prevent syphilis by using condoms and/or dental dams every time you have sex – even if you and your partner(s) look and feel totally healthy.

Is there a cure for syphilis?

Yes, syphilis is curable with antibiotic medicine. That's why it's important to get tested, even if you feel healthy. If you learn you have syphilis, encourage your sexual partner(s) to get tested and treated too. You may get syphilis again if they don't do this.

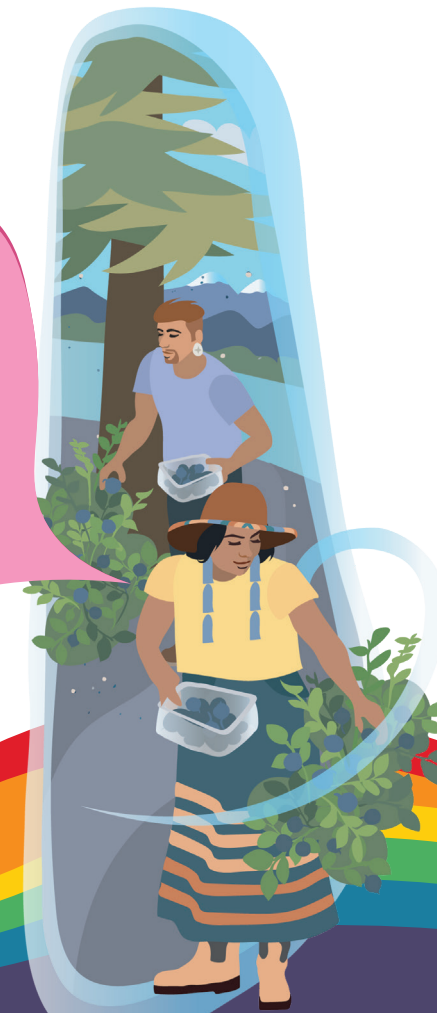
Getting tested

Testing for syphilis often involves a quick blood test. Some places offer rapid testing where you can get your results in as little as 10 minutes. Sometimes testing also involves testing a small amount of fluid from a sore. Both ways of testing are easy and effective.

While testing is available at most Indian Health Facilities, it is free at every health department in the US. Syphilis and HIV tests can be mailed free to your home through NativeTest.org.



Testing is easy and treatment is available! For peace of mind, talk with your provider or local Tribal health facility for more information about testing and treatment resources near you.



Protect you and your baby from syphilis



As a soon-to-be parent, you are likely being given tons of advice about the things you should or shouldn't do when it comes to protecting your baby. This can be a little nerve wracking, but the best way to calm any fears you might have is by staying informed.

What is syphilis?

Syphilis is a common infection that is spread through sex. It can be easily cured with antibiotic medicine, but it can cause serious damage if you don't get treated early.

What is congenital syphilis?

Congenital syphilis is when a pregnant person with syphilis passes the infection to their baby during pregnancy.

How congenital syphilis can affect your baby's health?

Babies born to people with untreated syphilis may be stillborn or die as a newborn. Syphilis in babies can also cause permanent damage to the brain and other organs, that results in blindness, deafness, and lifelong disability.

How does syphilis spread?

Syphilis is an STI that spreads skin-to-skin during oral, anal, and vaginal sex. Often syphilis causes one or more sores on your genitals, lips, or mouth. The sores are usually painless, but they spread infection to other people.

Symptoms of syphilis

In adults, syphilis symptoms are often so mild that most people don't notice them. Sometimes people even confuse syphilis sores with pimples or rashes. Overtime, though, if you don't treat syphilis, it can lead to permanent health problems for you and your baby. That's why STI testing is so important, no matter how healthy you feel.

Most people with syphilis initially feel healthy and totally normal.

Should I be concerned?

Congenital syphilis has increased sharply in Indian Country. You can protect your baby and yourself by talking with a nurse or doctor about getting tested for syphilis and getting treated if your test comes back positive.

How you can prevent syphilis

If you are pregnant or thinking about becoming pregnant:

- Go to your doctor or local Tribal health facility
- Get tested for syphilis
- Ask for the results of your syphilis test
- Complete any needed follow-up visits with your doctor and recommended treatments

Contact Us

Two Spirit Support Boat

Website:
2s-support.org

The Raven Collective

Website:
theravencollective.org

