

# Trichomoniasis

## Cause

Trichomoniasis is caused by a parasite called *Trichomonas vaginalis*.

## Symptoms

In women, the most common symptom of infection is a frothy, yellow-green vaginal discharge with a strong odour, though some women have no noticeable symptoms.

Most men with trichomoniasis don't have any symptoms. Men who do have symptoms may have an irritation inside the penis, mild discharge, or slight burning after urination or ejaculation.

## How is it transmitted?

Trichomoniasis is transmitted through penis-vagina sex. It can also be spread from female to female during penetrative sex.

## How do I know if I have it?

Testing for trichomoniasis involves a swab from the vagina. There is no specific test for men, however they are treated if their partner is infected and unprotected sex has occurred.

## Treatment/Management

Trichomoniasis is treated with antibiotics. Sexual partners need to be treated at the same time otherwise re-infection can occur.

## Prevention

Using condoms reduces the risk of getting trichomoniasis.

**For more information about trichomoniasis contact the Sexual Health Helpline on 9227 6178 or 1800 198 205 (country callers) or email [sexhelp@fpwa.org.au](mailto:sexhelp@fpwa.org.au)**

**Practising safe sex reduces the risk of contracting HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs).**



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