

Types of STI's : (Sexually Transmitted Infections)
(pages 496 - 498)

1. AIDS : Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
 HIV viral infection, attacks the immune system (destroying white blood cells ...helper T cells). You become more affected by other disease infections. Transmitted via unprotected sex, breastfeeding, birth, needle use, and blood transfusions. Early stage...no symptoms....easily transmittable. Second stage....helper T cell count drops....6 to 8 years. Flu like symptoms. Third stage....AIDS.....7 to 9 years....open to other infections. No cure.

2. Chlamydia :
 common bacterial infection....new cases ages 15 to 24 usually. Burning urination, fluid discharge, 75 of cases asymptomatic. Cervix sores, pelvic inflammatory disease (PID)...could block oviducts...causing infertility. Caught early enough....treated with antibiotics before permanent damage is done. During birth, may cause eye / lung infection in the infant.

3. Hepatitis :
 viral infection....three types..."A" by drinking sewage contaminated water. "B" by sexual contact...body fluids. "C" using needles. Flu like symptoms, jaundice, liver failure / cancer....maybe death. Vaccines for A and B types. Virus may cross the placenta and infect the fetus.

4. Herpes :
 viral infection....Type 1....cold sores....type 2.....blisters / sores inside or out for about a week...with flu like symptoms. Symptoms may disappear. Triggered again by sex, sun, food, stress. Many cases usually asymptomatic. Without sores present...cannot be diagnosed. No cure...only treatment to diminish future outbreaks. Sores can cause blindness, nerve damage, or death to infant.

5. Syphilis :
 bacterial infection....three stages, with latent periods in between. Hard edged Chancres sores during stage 1. Rash on the hands and feet during stage 2. Circulation and nerves affected in stage 3. Mental illness triggered, walking affected, internal / external ulcers. Diagnosed with a blood test, treated with antibiotics early...or permanent damage results. Can cause birth defects or miscarriage.

6. Gonorrhoea :
 bacterial infection...urethra, cervix, throat, rectum. Burning pee, thick discharge. PID in women, blocked oviducts, infertility. Antibiotic treatment, blindness in infants....eye drops given to all newborns.