You can get it by having unprotected sex with an infected partner.

Infected women who become pregnant can pass it to their unborn children.

1-800-227-8922
or call the CDC National STD Hotline:
(518) 474-3598
the New York State Department of Health:
If you have questions or want more information,
**What is syphilis?**

**Syphilis** is a sexually transmitted disease that, if untreated, can cause damage to the brain, heart, eyes and other body parts.

**What should I look for?**

**A few weeks after exposure**
- Small, painless sores on or around the genitals, rectum or mouth, that heal in a month or less.

**About 6 weeks later**
- Rash on hands or feet
- Sores on or inside the mouth and tongue
- Wartlike sores on or around the genital area
- Fever, headache, tiredness, swollen glands, thinning hair and sore throat.

Some people have no symptoms, but can be diagnosed through a simple blood test. **Syphilis can be treated with medication and is curable if detected in the early stages of the infection.**

**To prevent syphilis:**
- Practice abstinence (don’t have sex), or
- If having sex, use a condom or dental dam