

How could I get it?

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

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

3828

3/04

Adapted with permission from StampOutSyphilis!

SOS

1-800-227-8922

or call the CDC National STD Hotline:

(518) 474-3598

If you have questions or want more information, contact your local health department. Or call the New York State Department of Health:

It doesn't discriminate.

Syphilis

Get tested. Get treated.

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