

# SYPHILIS INFECTIONS ARE ON THE RISE

People who are sexually active can get syphilis, a sexually transmitted infection (STI). Congenital syphilis occurs when people pass syphilis to their babies during pregnancy.

40%

2 in 5 people who had a baby with syphilis did not get prenatal care.

90%

Almost 9 in 10 newborn cases in 2022 could have been prevented with testing and treatment during pregnancy.

10X

Over 10 times as many babies were born with syphilis in 2022 than in 2012.

Syphilis can be treated and cured with antibiotics. However, treatment might not undo any damage the infection can cause in newborns.

Syphilis symptoms vary over time and may include painless sores or rashes on the genitals, rectum or mouth. Most people do not know they have syphilis without testing for it.

Miscarriage, stillbirth, severe lifelong health problems, and even newborn death can result from syphilis infection during pregnancy.



For more information visit: [cdc.gov/vitalsigns/newborn-syphilis/index.html](https://cdc.gov/vitalsigns/newborn-syphilis/index.html)

# Prevent Congenital Syphilis and Syphilis



Being in a relationship with one partner who has been tested and does not have syphilis.



All pregnant people should receive syphilis testing at their first prenatal visit, at 28 weeks and again before birth to detect syphilis and receive timely treatment.



Get tested for sexually transmitted infections, especially if you or your partner are pregnant or planning to get pregnant.



Use condoms 100% of the time.



Do not have sex with someone if you know they are being treated for STIs.



If you have a sexually transmitted infection be sure to tell your partner(s). You have the option to tell your partner(s) anonymously through your healthcare provider.



Having syphilis once does not protect you from getting it again. Even after successful treatment, you can get syphilis again.



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