

# Mycoplasma genitalium

## What is it?

Mycoplasma genitalium (Mgen) is a sexually transmissible infection (STI) caused by a bacteria. It can infect the inside lining of the penis (urethra) and the neck of the womb (cervix). Mgen has only recently been discovered, so we don't know everything about it.

## How do I know if I have it?

There may be no symptoms.

If there are symptoms, these can start from 2 to 14 days after infection.

Penis symptoms:

- pain when passing urine
- discharge from the penis

Testicles (balls)

- painful balls

Vagina/cervix/pelvis

- bleeding or pain during or after sex
- bleeding between regular periods
- a change in vaginal discharge
- cramps or pain in the lower abdomen

A cervical infection may spread into the womb, fallopian tubes and ovaries to also cause pelvic inflammatory disease (PID).

## How is it transmitted?

Mycoplasma can be passed from one person to another during vaginal or anal sex.

## How can the nurse/ Doctor tell me if I have it?

It can be diagnosed by a urine or swab test

## How can I get rid of it?

It should be treated with antibiotics. In some cases repeat courses of treatment may be needed. Mgen is becoming resistant to some treatments, so it is important to follow the doctors or nurses instructions to ensure it goes away.

It is important that you **do not** have sex for 7 days after finishing treatment. This is to prevent you infecting others or them re-infecting you.

After 1 month another test will be done. A negative test shows the infection is completely gone. Use condoms until the infection is completely gone. If the repeat test is positive again, you will need more treatment.

Always use condoms.

## Who do I need to tell and why?

It is important to tell people you have had sex with about Mgen. They will need to be tested and treated if their test is positive. Ask your doctor if you aren't sure who you need to tell. They can help you with this and help you contact them.

This fact sheet is just some general information. If you are worried about your health go and see a doctor.

**For more information or support visit:**

For more information on STIs and safe sex visit the Play Safe website:

[www.playsafe.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.playsafe.health.nsw.gov.au)

Sexual Health Info Link is a service that you can call up for information on STIs and sexual health. It's anonymous and non-judgemental. Call: 1800 451 624 or visit <https://www.shil.nsw.gov.au/>

“Let them know” allows you to send an anonymous messages to tell someone you've had sex with that they have come into contact with the infection: <http://www.letthemknow.org.au/>