

## Mucopurulent Cervicitis (MPC)

MPC is a sexually transmitted infection (STI) of the cervix. It can be caused by many different germs (e.g., chlamydia, gonorrhoea) or other germs that aren't known.

### How do I get MPC?

Females get MPC through unprotected sexual contact (oral, vaginal, or anal sex without a condom) with someone infected with germs that can cause MPC.

You can infect others right after you come in contact with the germs that cause MPC. You can pass on the germs to others without knowing it.

### How do I prevent MPC?

When you're sexually active, the best way to prevent MPC is to use condoms for oral, vaginal, and anal sex.

Don't have any sexual contact if you or your partner(s) have symptoms of an STI, or may have been exposed to an STI. See a doctor or go to an STI Clinic for testing.

Get STI testing every 3 to 6 months and when you have symptoms.

### How do I know if I have MPC?

Some females with MPC don't have any symptoms, while others may have:

- vaginal discharge
- bleeding between periods or after sex
- pain in the abdomen
- pain during or after vaginal sex

The best way to find out if you have MPC is to see your nurse or doctor and get tested. You will have a pelvic exam and be tested for STIs.

### Is MPC harmful?

If MPC isn't treated, it can spread up into the uterus, fallopian tubes, and ovaries. This can cause a serious infection called pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). PID can cause pain in the lower abdomen, infertility, and increase your risk of tubal pregnancies.

These effects can be prevented if you get **early STI testing and treatment**.

## How is MPC treated?

MPC is treated with antibiotics.

Your partner(s) needs to be tested and treated even if there are no symptoms.

You can get re-infected if you have unprotected sex with someone before he or she is treated.

If you still have symptoms 3 to 4 weeks after taking antibiotics, see your nurse or doctor.

## When can I have sex again?

It will take 1 week for the antibiotic to get rid of the infection. Don't have unprotected sex (oral, vaginal, or anal sex without a condom) for **7 days** after you and your partner(s) are treated. The best protection is **not** to have sex (oral, vaginal, or anal) for at least 7 days. If you still have symptoms, don't have any sexual contact.

## For More Information

- STI/HIV Information Line: 1-800-772-2437
- [www.myhealth.alberta.ca](http://www.myhealth.alberta.ca)
- [www.sexgerms.com](http://www.sexgerms.com)



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