

Chancroid

FACT SHEET

What is Chancroid?

Chancroid is a sexually transmitted disease caused by a bacteria. This infection is most often seen in men; however, women can get this infection as well.

Who Can Get Chancroid?

Chancroid is transmitted from person to person through sexual contact. The infection starts usually 3-5 days after contact with an infected person (sometimes it takes up to 14 days).

What are the Symptoms?

Symptoms include:

- Tender blisters in the genital area that become ulcers
- Redness around the area of the ulcers
- Tenderness and swelling in the glands surrounding the pubic area

The symptoms may be confused with syphilis. It is important to be tested by your doctor. Some individuals will be carriers of this infection though they may not have symptoms of the disease. These carriers may infect others.

What is the Treatment?

Chancroid can be treated with antibiotics, taken either by an injection or by mouth. Your doctor can prescribe the best treatment for you.

How Can You Prevent Chancroid?

You can reduce your risk of getting chancroid by:

- Limiting the number of sexual partners you have
- Using condoms and rubber dams for all sexual contact
- Seeing your doctor if you have any of the above symptoms
- Having **no** sexual contact if there are ulcers in your or your partner's genital area
- Learning about prevention and control of sexually transmitted diseases