

PROCTITIS

Proctitis is an infection or inflammation in the rectum. It can be caused by bacteria or viruses.

How is proctitis spread?

Proctitis is usually from anal sex.

What do I look for?

Men, Women and Trans people:

Rectal pain, bleeding, sores and/or discharge are all possible symptoms of proctitis. You might also notice a swollen, painful lymph node in your groin.

Is Proctitis serious?

Yes, proctitis can be very painful and can increase your risk of getting infected with HIV, hepatitis C and other sexually transmitted infections. Untreated proctitis can cause scarring and other serious/painful long-term problems.

Some proctitis is caused by LGV (lymphogranuloma venereum). LGV is a sexually transmitted infection (STI) caused by specific strains of chlamydia.

What will happen if I have Proctitis?

- You will be given antibiotic medicine. *It's important to finish your medication to completely kill the bacteria.*
- If you have proctitis, we will send a test for LGV. The lab will do the LGV test only if your rectal chlamydia test is positive. Depending on the results of your tests, we may call you back in and ask you to take antibiotics for a longer course.
- Your sex partners must be treated. If they aren't treated, they could give the infection back to you, or infect others.
- Don't have sex while you are taking the antibiotic. Don't have sex with your partner while you are both taking your medicine.
- If your symptoms do not go away, return to the clinic for a further check-up.

How do I avoid getting Proctitis?

- Plan ahead! Protect yourself!
- If you're thinking of having sex with a new partner:
 - Talk about STDs.
 - Talk about having safer sex by using male or female (i.e. "internal") condoms

If you contracted proctitis and you do not know the HIV status of that sexual partner, you should be concerned about your increased risk of HIV. Talk to your clinician.

For more information:

Please talk with your City Clinic clinician or your own health care provider. The following websites also offer helpful information:

General STD

www.ashsexualhealth.org (also in Español)
www.cdc.gov/std/
www.sfcityclinic.org
www.sfsi.org/

Contraception and STD/sex info

www.bedsider.org

Teens

www.iwannaknow.org
www.amplifyyourvoice.org (also in Español)
www.kidshealth.org/teen (also in Español)
www.scarleteen.com

For a STD check-up or treatment,
see your doctor, local clinic, or come to:



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