



“It wasn’t easy hearing about this, but I’m glad I got treated right away.”

Learn more about Trichomoniasis:

- Call toll free 1-800-758-0880
- Or visit [publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp)

# Trichomoniasis:

## What You Should Do Now

Your sex partner has trichomoniasis (trick-oh-mo-NEYE-ah-sis), also called “trich” (trick).

This is a curable infection people can get from having sex. You may have trich too.

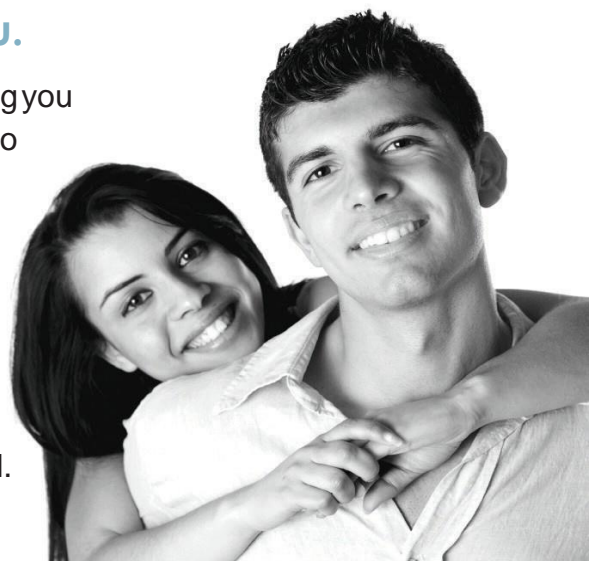
Your partner has taken medicine to treat trich. You must take the same kind of medicine as soon as you can.

### Here’s what you need to know:

- Trich is easy to cure. But both you and your partner(s) must take all the medicine right away.
- You can get trich by having sex (vaginal sex, oral sex, or using sex toys).
- Many people have trich and don’t know it.
- Men with trich may have pain in the penis, a burning feeling when they urinate(pee), or a discharge from the penis. Women may have irritation or a bad-smelling discharge from the vagina.
- If a woman doesn’t get treated and later gets pregnant, trich can hurt her pregnancy and could cause her baby to be born too early.

### Take the pills your partner brings you.

- Your partner may bring you pills or a prescription to get them. Either way, it is important to take them as soon as you can.
- You can also visit a clinic as soon as possible to get treated.



## Here's how to take the pills:

You will receive 4 white metronidazole pills (500mg each).

Take all 4 pills at the same time with a full glass of water.

- Do NOT drink alcohol for 24 hours after taking this medicine. It could make you very sick.
- Do NOT take antacids (like Zantac or Pepcid) for one hour before or two hours after you take the pills.
- Do NOT share or give your pills to anyone else.

Most people do not have serious problems after they take these pills.

- Some people may have an upset stomach, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Some people may also notice a darkening of their urine (pee).

These common problems will go away on their own in a couple of days. If they don't, or if you develop a rash or fever, talk to a doctor.

## These pills are very safe for most people.

However, do NOT take the pills and talk to a doctor or provider FIRST if:

- You know you are pregnant, think you might be pregnant, or plan to become pregnant.
- You ever had a bad reaction, rash, or allergy to antibiotics.

- You have a serious illness such as kidney, heart, or liver disease.
- You are taking any other prescribed medicine.

## How long does it take for the infection to go away?

It takes 7 days for the medicine to work.

For 7 days after you take the pills:

- It is best not to have sex at all (vaginal sex, oral sex, anal sex, or using sex toys).
- If you do have sex, you must use a condom or else you will be in danger of getting trich again or passing the infection on to your partner(s).

## Go to a doctor, clinic, or emergency room right away:

If you are a woman and:

- Have lower belly pain.
- Have pain with sex.
- Are vomiting.
- Have a rash or fever.

If you are a man and:

- Have pain or swelling in your testicles (balls).
- Have a rash or fever.

This may mean you may need stronger medicine. The medicine given to you may NOT be enough to cure the infection.

## Get a trich test now.

- The test doesn't hurt.
- A doctor or nurse may need to take a simple swab of fluid from the vagina.
- Get another test in 3 months to make sure you didn't get trich again.

## Find a clinic near you:

- Ask your partner where he or she got tested.
- Visit [gettested.cdc.org](http://gettested.cdc.org) or call the CDC hotline at 800-CDC-INFO or 800-232-4636.
- Get tested for other STDs including syphilis and HIV
- Protect yourself from HIV with PrEP or pre-exposure prophylaxis, a daily pill that helps you stay HIV negative