



*“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.

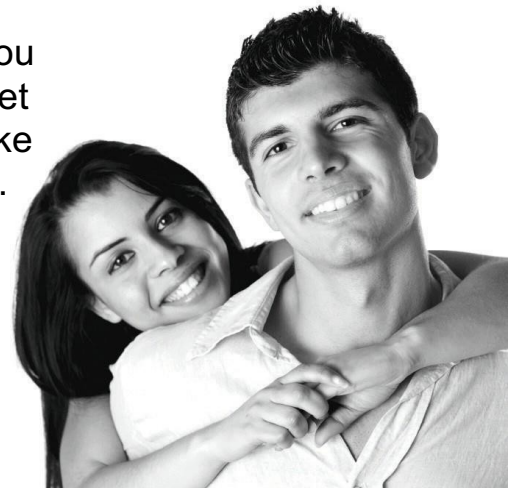
Your partner has taken medication to cure trich. You must take the same kind of medication as soon as you can.

## 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.

## Get Treated

- The best way to take care of this infection is to go to a clinic right away.
- Your partner may bring you pills or a prescription to get them. It is important to take them as soon as you can.
- Because people can have more than one STD at the same time it is important that you visit a clinic as soon as possible to get tested for other STD’s.



Anyone shown in these photos is a model. The photos are used for illustrative purposes only.



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## Here's how to take the pills:

Follow the instructions for the medicine you were given.

### **Metronidazole (2 g):** | **Metronidazole (500 mg):**

Take all of the medicine at once, as soon as you get it.

Take one pill in the morning and one pill at night for 7 days.

- 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 these pills to anyone else!

Most people do not have 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, talk to your doctor.

## The pills are very safe for most people.

Talk to your doctor if...

- You have ever had a bad reaction, rash, or allergy to antibiotics.
- You have a serious long-term illness, such as kidney, heart, or liver disease.
- You are currently taking another prescribed medication.
- You know you are pregnant, think you might be pregnant, or plan to become pregnant.

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

It takes 7 days for the medication to work.

For 7 days after you take the pills:

- It is best not to have sex at all with the vagina, penis, mouth, or anus. It is also best to not use any sex toys.
- However, 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 pills that were given to you may NOT be enough to treat 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 a test in 3 months after taking the medication 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](https://www.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.