

Trichomonas

Trichomonas vaginalis is a single cell parasite that causes a sexually transmitted disease called trichomoniasis. The parasite causes vaginal infections in women and infections of the urethra and inflammation of the prostate in men. It often has no symptoms but may increase your risk for other STDs, including HIV, if not treated.

How is the test performed?

Trichomonas is a urine test where men and women collect the initial portion of the urine stream as they begin to urinate.

What are symptoms of trichomonas?

Only about 30% of infected people will develop any symptoms. In women, symptoms may include:

- Itching, irritation, soreness of the vagina, or a burning sensation
- Frothy, yellow-green or grey vaginal discharge
- Foul-smelling vaginal discharge
- Frequent urge to urinate
- Possible blood-spotting from the vagina
- Itching of inner thighs
- Discomfort during intercourse

In men, symptoms may include:

- Burning after urinating or ejaculating
- Itching or irritation of the urethra
- Discharge from the urethra

Is trichomonas curable?

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), trichomoniasis is one of the most common, curable sexually transmitted diseases.

What should I do if my results are positive or negative?

It is always recommended you meet with a health care provider to determine what your laboratory test results mean to you. Your health care provider will review all of your test results and, combined with your health history, will be able to provide an accurate picture of your health status.

If your results were positive: A positive test indicates a trichomonas infection that requires treatment with a course of prescription medication. You should contact your healthcare provider to initiate the treatment and any sexual partner(s) should also be tested.

If your results were negative: A negative test means either there is no infection and symptoms are due to another cause or the parasite was not able to be detected in the sample using the testing method performed. If trichomonas is still suspected, contact your healthcare provider who may suggest a different testing method.

What other resources are available to learn more about my health and laboratory tests?

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: cdc.gov
- Lab Tests Online: labtestsonline.org
- Quest Diagnostics: questdiagnostics.com

DLO Direct offers direct access to laboratory testing for informational purposes. A DLO Direct lab test result is not a medical diagnosis and is not intended as medical advice. Only a healthcare provider can interpret lab results and diagnose a medical condition or disease.

Because tests have not been ordered by a healthcare provider, third party entities, including Medicare and Medicaid, will not reimburse for these tests.



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