



LENAWEE COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID)

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What is PID?

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) is an infection of a woman's reproductive organs. It is a complication often caused by some STIs, like chlamydia and gonorrhea. Other infections that are not sexually transmitted can also cause PID. If left untreated, PID can lead to complications like infertility, ectopic pregnancy, and chronic pelvic pain.

What Increases the Risk of PID?

- Have an STI and do not get treated
- Have more than one sex partner
- Have had PID before
- Are sexually active and are age 25 or younger
- Using a douche

Symptoms of PID

Some may not realize they have PID because symptoms could be mild, but you might experience:

- Pain in lower abdomen
- Fever
- An unusual discharge with a bad odor from your vagina
- Pain and/or bleeding when you have sex
- Bleeding between periods

Reducing the Risk

- Use a condom correctly every time you have sex, with every partner
- If you are positive for an STI, get treated and follow ALL treatment recommendations including follow-up testing
- Have open communication with partners
- Test before each new partner

Treating PID

PID can be treated with antibiotics. However, treatment will not undo any damage that has already happened to your reproductive system.

- While taking antibiotics, your symptoms may go away before the infection is cured. Even if symptoms go away, you should finish taking all of your medicine
- Be sure to tell your recent sex partner(s), so they can get tested and treated for STIs, too. If your partner is not treated you can get re-infected

This FACT SHEET is for information only and is not meant to be used for self-diagnosis or as a substitute for consultation with a health care provider. For more information call your health care provider or call the Lenawee County Health Department (517) 264-5226