

CHLAMYDIA TRICHOMATIS

Chlamydia Trichomatis Bacteria

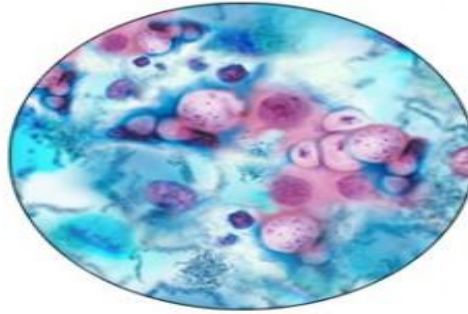


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Chlamydia Trichomatis is an obligate intracellular human pathogen and a gram-negative bacterium. It is one of the many STDs (sexually transmitted diseases) and it also infects both sex (male and female). For various reasons it proves to be serious in females as it can result to infertility, or cause an ectopic pregnancy i.e. pregnancy that occurs with the fetus outside the womb.

HOW CHLAMYDIA CAN BE SPREAD

Now as with other STDs, chlamydia is also spread through sexual contacts which include having vaginal, anal or oral sex with another infected individual. Chlamydia can also re-occur in individuals that have been previously treated for the infection but still have another 'rush hour' period of unprotected sex with an infected partner. Unfortunately, it can also be transferred from mother to child during delivery, causing neonate to develop pneumonia and infections in the eye (conjunctivitis) and lungs.

SYMPTOMS

Chlamydia often present itself with no symptoms in most individuals and as other STDs, the symptoms of chlamydia aren't pretty and are also gross as usual.

- Symptoms in women include; an abnormal discharge from the vagina and a burning sensation when urinating.
- Symptoms in men include; discharge from the Willy (penis), burning sensation when urinating, also the individual's testicles could swell pretty bad which happen to be rare.

DETECTION AND DIAGNOSIS

There are several diagnostic tests that could be carried out to detect and confirm if an individual has chlamydia or not. Tests to help detection and diagnosis include; nucleic acid amplification tests (NAAT), nucleic acid hybridization tests (DNA probe test), enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), direct fluorescent antibody and chlamydia cell culture.

TREATMENT

Fortunately, if this infection is detected, it can be treated and cured. One doesn't have to degenerate into the depressive and life sentence states as seen with HIV/AIDS patients. It could be treated with several bacteriostatic antibiotics examples are microlides and tetracyclines.

As the saying goes, "prevention is better than cure". How can this be prevented? you may ask. Firstly, it's important to note that the only way of avoiding this infection completely is by not having sex (of any kind). However, the risk of an individual contracting it can be reduced by having sex with a partner that has tested negative for chlamydia and also by employing the use of latex condoms during sex.

NB; It is crucial to note that it isn't completely safe to rush back into sexual activities once you are through with treatment if you don't want your partner to start experiencing sudden discharges from the vagina or the penis not to add that there might be swelling of the testicles involved. It's usually recommended that you tarry for a while (usually about 7 days), especially if your doctor has prescribed a single dose of medication for you.

REFERENCES

En.wikipedia.org/wiki/chlamydia
www.cdc.gov/std/chlamydia/stdfact-chlamydia.htm

By Chukaorah Chukwuka.