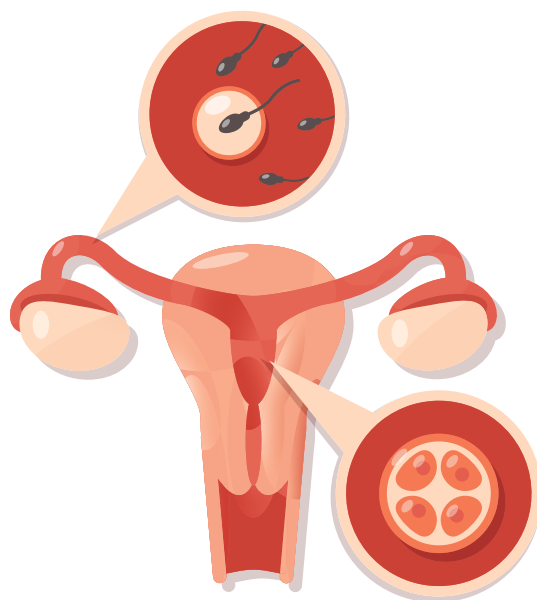


## Learn About Infectious Cervicitis

By **Santiago Estrada MD**  
Specialist in Medical Microbiology and  
Parasitology  
Salud VID



### 1. What is infectious cervicitis, and how does it manifest?

Infectious cervicitis is the inflammation of the cervix, also known as the neck of the uterus or womb. Women with infectious cervicitis generally do not experience any symptoms; however, some may present with bloody vaginal discharge, especially after sexual intercourse.

### 2. What causes infectious cervicitis?

Infectious cervicitis is caused by various microorganisms, including:

- *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (gonococcus) (see Health Letter 38)
- *Chlamydia trachomatis* (see Health Letter 80)
- *Trichomonas vaginalis* (see Health Letter 58)
- *Mycoplasma genitalium* (see Health Letter 85)

### 3. Who can get infectious cervicitis, and how is it transmitted?

Any woman can develop infectious cervicitis. It is transmitted through sexual contact, meaning that if a partner is infected with one of the microorganisms that cause cervicitis (see Question 2), they will transmit it to the person with whom they have had sexual relations.

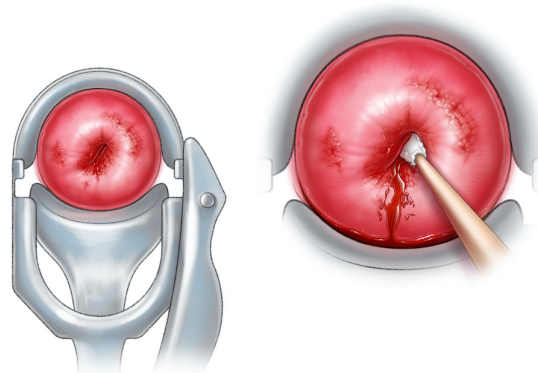
### 4. When should you seek medical attention?

You should consult a doctor if you have had contact with someone diagnosed with infectious urethritis (see Health Letter 113).

## 5. How is infectious cervicitis diagnosed?

Diagnosis is made through laboratory tests.

It is very important to follow these recommendations before undergoing testing.



- 1 Do not be on your menstrual period.
- 2 Do not take antibiotics or have taken them in the last eight days.
- 3 Do not use vaginal creams, ointments, or suppositories before the test.

## 6. How is infectious cervicitis treated?

Treatment consists of antibiotics prescribed by the treating physician and based on laboratory test results. Each microorganism (see Question 2) is treated differently.

**Note:** Please do not take antibiotics unless prescribed by a doctor.

## 7. How can infectious cervicitis be prevented?

The most effective prevention method is monogamy, meaning maintaining sexual relations with only one partner. If this is not the case, always use a condom.

## Recommended Reading

Health Letter 38: Learn About Gonorrhea

Health Letter 58: Learn About Trichomonas

Health Letter 80: Learn About Chlamydia

Health Letter 85: Learn About Mycoplasma genitalium

Health Letter 90: Learn About Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

Estrada S, Escandón K, Gaviria A, et al. Protocols for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections. Revista Infectio, Vol. 26, No. 3, pp. 228–239, 2022.

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Sexually Transmitted Infections Treatment Guidelines, 2021.

Images taken from Freepik

### COMITÉ EDITORIAL

**Salud VID** • Danny Javier Robles Gómez - Director General • Juan Mario Jaramillo Acosta - Director Laboratorio Clínico  
 • Carlos Mario Cardona Betancur - Jefe Laboratorio Dental • Ana María Montoya Duque - Microbióloga  
 • Margarita María Montaña Hernández - Coordinadora Odontológica • Daniel Mauricio Castañeda Vargas - Coordinador de Mercadeo.  
**Organización VID** • Santiago Estrada Mesa - Asistencia, docencia e investigación.  
**Clínica Cardio VID** • Juan Carlos González Arroyave - Director Científico.

REVISIÓN Y DISEÑO Departamento de Comunicaciones Organización VID

Escanea el  
código QR y  
conoce todas las  
Cartas de Salud

