

# SYPHILIS

Syphilis is a bacterial, sexually transmitted infection (STI). Syphilis is curable and progression of the disease is preventable, but if left untreated, it can cause cardiovascular and neurological diseases, blindness and can also be transmitted from a pregnant woman to her fetus.

## Congenital Syphilis

is syphilis present in a pregnant mother's uterus and is acquired by her baby during birth. Women with untreated or inadequately treated early- or late-stage syphilis occurring within a year or more after infection face a 23 percent chance of an adverse pregnancy.



**SYPHILIS  
IF PREGNANT CAN  
LEAD TO**

**CONGENITAL  
SYPHILIS**

**CHANGE OF AN ADVERSE  
PREGNANCY OUTCOME IF LEFT  
UNTREATED.**

**23%**

Untreated congenital syphilis can cause poor pregnancy outcomes, including miscarriages, stillbirths or death in newborns. Some infants with congenital syphilis have symptoms at birth, but many develop symptoms later.



**CHANGE OF A MOTHER PASSING  
SYPHILIS ONTO HER UNBORN  
BABY IF LEFT UNTESTED.**

**80%**

DURING THEIR FIRST  
PRENATAL VISIT

**1<sup>ST</sup>**

THIRD  
TRIMESTER

**2<sup>ND</sup>**

AT DELIVERY

**3<sup>RD</sup>**

**IF YOU ARE  
PREGNANT  
YOUR DOCTOR IS  
REQUIRED TO TEST  
YOU ON 3 SEPARATE  
OCCASIONS**



**TALK**

TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR AND ASK ABOUT REGULAR  
SYPHILIS TESTING



**TEST**

GET TESTED AT YOUR 1ST PRENATAL VISIT + 3RD  
TRIMESTER AND AT DELIVERY



**TREAT**

GET TREATED RIGHT AWAY IF DIAGNOSED WITH  
SYPHILIS. MAKE SURE YOUR PARTNER IS TREATED, TOO



**HOUSTON HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT**

To find out more, visit [MyPrenatalPromise.com](https://www.MyPrenatalPromise.com)