

General Facts About STDs

- ◆ STDs are one of the most common types of infections in the U.S. today
- ◆ Most people infected with an STD don't ever know it
- ◆ You can get an STD from someone who honestly does not know they are infected with it
- ◆ Many STDs have no cure (HIV, herpes)
- ◆ STDs can cause serious health problems such as infertility (can't get pregnant), cancer, and even death
- ◆ Condoms have been proven to decrease your chance of getting HIV, but not proven to prevent other STDs.
- ◆ Many STDs can be transmitted to a baby during pregnancy or birth
- ◆ You can get an STD not only from vaginal but also oral sex, anal sex, and skin to skin contact in the genital area
- ◆ STDs cost billions of dollars to diagnose and treat each year
- ◆ It is easier to transmit or acquire HIV infection if you are infected with other STDs
- ◆ Adolescents are at greater risk of acquiring STDs
- ◆ You can get a STD the first time you have sex.

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