

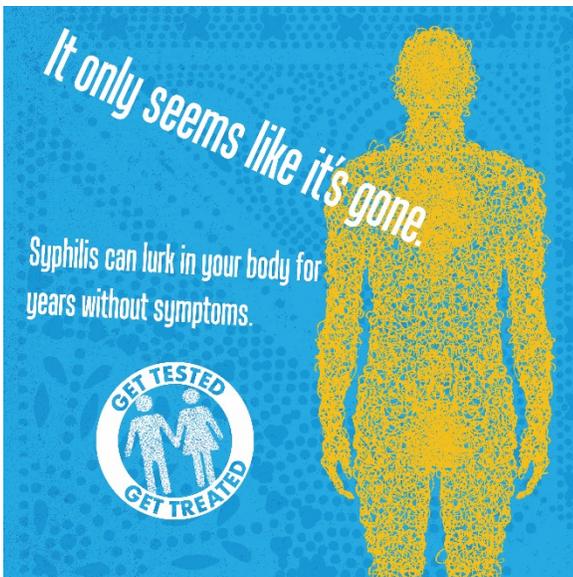


With STDs, sharing is NOT caring!

Before it could be cured with penicillin, syphilis was the most feared STD, and for good reason. Symptoms can be mild and difficult to recognize, and even the ones that do appear might go unnoticed. This makes it hard to know if you, or a partner, are infected.

Untreated syphilis can lead to serious health problems and even death. Routine testing is the best way for those at risk to show care. Talk to a health care provider, or ask about testing options at your local public health center or clinic.

Learn more at: www.std.dhss.alaska.gov

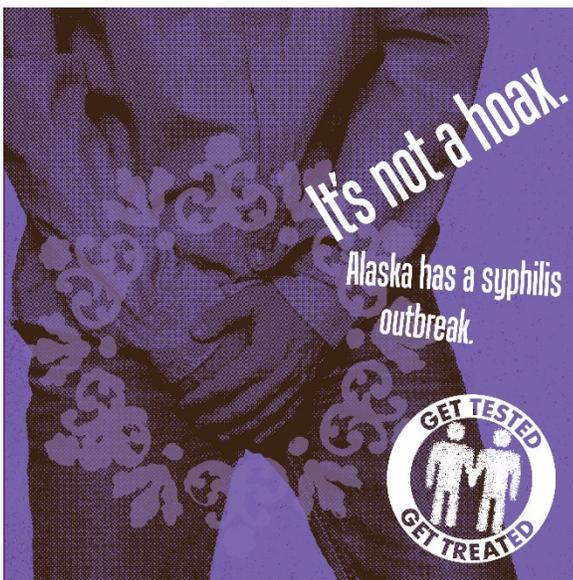


Let us help you NOT become infected.

When left untreated, syphilis can remain in your body for years, or even decades, causing serious health problems to your nervous system and even death. These long-term problems include impaired vision, hearing loss, difficulties with coordination, stroke, dementia and death.

Get tested. Get treated. Learn about testing at your local public health center or clinic, or talk to a health care provider.

Learn more at: www.std.dhss.alaska.gov

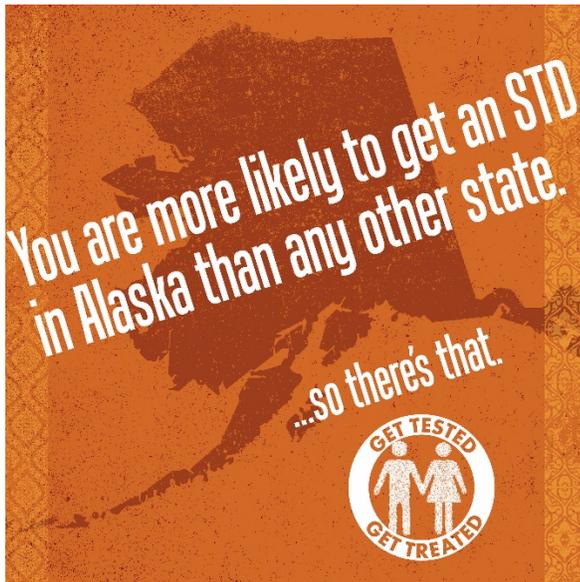


On the rise.

The number of syphilis cases reported in the first three months of 2018 has already exceeded the number of ALL cases reported in 2017; 80% of the 2018 cases occurred in Anchorage, and 90% of those affected were men between the ages of 20 and 63 years.

Help stop the outbreak by getting tested.

Learn more at: www.std.dhss.alaska.gov



We're number 1!

Ugh. Using data from the CDC, as well as state and local health info and social media surveys, backgroundchecks.org found Alaska to be the “most sexually diseased state” in the nation — with 15 cases of gonorrhea per 10,000 residents and 77 cases of chlamydia per 10,000 residents.

Learn more at: www.std.dhss.alaska.gov

See the report: <http://backgroundchecks.org/these-are-the-most-sexually-diseased-states-in-the-us.html>

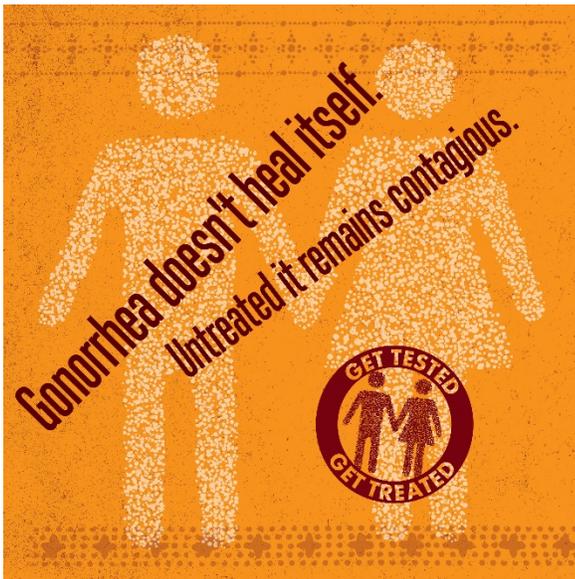


An ounce of prevention...

Alaska has some of the highest STD rates in the nation. Preventing a sexually transmitted infection is easier than treating an infection after it occurs. Condom use reduces the risk of becoming infected with an STD, especially gonorrhea, chlamydia, and HIV. Abstinence also works, just saying...

Learn more at: www.std.dhss.alaska.gov

I Know Mine, a program of ANTHC, provides free condoms to individuals and in bulk to health care providers. <https://www.iknowmine.org/provider-materials/Other/wrap-it-up-condoms>



Many STDs do not have symptoms

You can have infection and not have any symptoms, or have mild symptoms that don't bother you. Even without symptoms, the infection can damage your body and you can give the infection to others.

Talk to teens and young adults about STDs! Gonorrhea and chlamydia are very common STDs in Alaska, with half of all infections occurring in people under the age of 30 years.

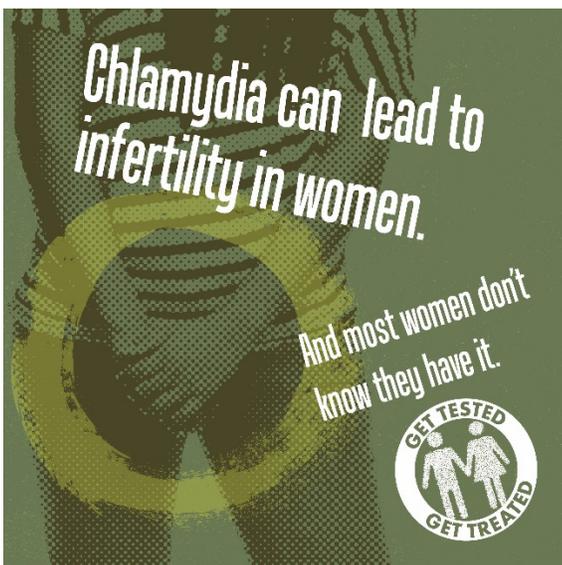
Learn more at: www.std.dhss.alaska.gov



If you have untreated chlamydia, your baby is at risk.

Pregnant women with an untreated chlamydia infection are at a greater risk of developing complications such as a miscarriage, premature birth, or other health issues. Like other STDs, chlamydia can also be passed to the baby during childbirth.

Learn more at: www.std.dhss.alaska.gov



STDs can have no symptoms...

Chlamydia is most often seen in men and women age 15-24 years of age. The CDC recommends annual STD testing for all women under age 25 and older women with STD risk factors (such as having new or multiple sexual partners).

Chlamydia infection can cause pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). PID can scar women's fallopian tubes and prevent them from being able to have children. Chlamydia, in rare cases, can also cause infertility in men.

Learn more at: www.STD/DHSS.alaska.gov



The more you know.

If you receive a text from us it doesn't mean you have an STD. But you could – a phone call from a DHSS Disease Intervention Specialist means that you may have been exposed to an STD and should be tested.

To learn more about our notification process, visit www.dis.dhss.alaska.gov

Knowledge is power! Let us help you.

Learn more at: www.std.dhss.alaska.gov