

TRUE/FALSE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. *People who have had only one sexual partner are not at risk of an STI.*

False. Anyone who has had sexual contact with an infected person is at risk of STIs. It might be the first sexual encounter for one person, but not the other.

2. *If you are in a monogamous relationship you cannot get an STI.*

False. If your partner or you have been sexually active before entering into the monogamous relationship, you could be at risk of STIs.

3. *Using latex condoms properly will help prevent the spread of STIs.*

True. If latex condoms are used correctly and consistently, they can be an effective prevention tool against STIs. However, latex condoms are not 100 percent effective because they will not protect against STIs located where condoms do not cover. For instance genital warts can grow in the groin area.

4. *Condoms are the most effective safeguard against the spread of STIs.*

False. Abstinence from sexual intercourse/contact is the most effective way to prevent the spread of STIs. Condoms are the next best thing. However, keep in mind that some STIs can be transmitted from sexual contact of the infected area without intercourse.

5. *STIs can be spread through kissing.*

True. It is possible to get an STI from kissing someone with syphilis (small sores) or herpes lesions around the mouth.

6. *If you are worried about getting an STI, oral intercourse is a safe route.*

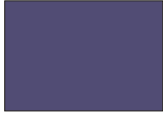
False. Some STIs such as HIV, gonorrhea, syphilis, and herpes, can be spread through oral intercourse.

7. *Only people who have vaginal, anal, or oral intercourse can be infected with an STI.*

False. Infected mothers can transmit some STIs to their infants during pregnancy or birth. Additionally, STIs can be transmitted through sexual contact such as kissing.

8. *You will always know when you have an STI because there will be symptoms.*

False. Often people have STIs but do not have any symptoms. Even without symptoms you can pass the STI onto someone else.



TRUE/FALSE QUESTIONNAIRE (CONT'D)

9. *Some common symptoms of STIs are itching and burning in the genital area.*

True. People who have an STI sometimes get symptoms, which may include itching in the genital area, unusual discharge, pain passing urine, sores, blisters or pain during sex, but often there are no symptoms at all. The only way to be sure is to have a test at a local clinic.

10. *Sexually transmitted infections are treatable.*

True. Most sexually transmitted infections are treatable. Many are even curable if the correct medical treatment is received promptly.

11. *STIs have been around for more than 100 years.*

True. Some STDs such as syphilis and gonorrhoea have been known for centuries while others such as HIV have been identified only in the past few decades.

12. *Women are more likely to get STIs than men.*

True. STIs are more easily passed from men to women than vice versa, which results in higher female rates of infection. Many STIs affecting women show no early signs or symptoms. As a result, they go undetected and untreated until complications arise.

13. *STIs do not put your unborn baby at risk during the pregnancy or delivery.*

False. Pregnant women with STIs are at greater risk of miscarriage during pregnancy and premature delivery. In some cases they can also transmit the infection to their babies during delivery.

14. *STIs are a nuisance but do not pose any long term health threats.*

False. The health consequences of STIs include: chronic pain, infertility, cancer, brain damage, heart damage, liver damage and increased vulnerability to HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. If left untreated some STIs can even result in death.

15. *STIs are often the cause of curses or witchcraft.*

False. STIs are passed from one person to another through sexual contact. An infection means that a germ that can cause sickness is present inside a person's body. STIs cannot be passed through curses or witchcraft.