

Congenital Syphilis

What to Know

to Protect Yourself and Your Baby

In the past
10 years,
congenital
syphilis has
increased
by 700%

Did You Know?

Recently, the number of babies being born with syphilis has been increasing in the U.S.

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted disease (STD). Congenital syphilis is when a mother that has syphilis, passes the infection to her baby during pregnancy.

Up to 2 out of 5 babies born to mothers with untreated syphilis die from the infection.

Why Does This Matter?

Babies born with congenital syphilis can suffer major health impacts:

- Deformed bones
- Jaundice and severe anemia
- Brain and nerve issues
- Death

A mother that has syphilis and has not been treated could suffer:

- Miscarriage
- Stillbirth
- Premature birth
- Low birthweight

How to Prevent Congenital Syphilis

- Get a syphilis test at your first prenatal visit.
- If you test positive, there is treatment available to cure the infection.
- Reduce your risk of getting syphilis before and during your pregnancy by:
 - Practicing safer sex by using a condom to prevent STDs like syphilis.
 - Getting regular STD testing.

For information
on FREE STD/HIV
services and more,
visit
AAHealth.org/HIV
or call
410-222-7382

