



# Bacterial Vaginosis

## What is Bacterial Vaginosis?

Bacterial Vaginosis (BV) is an infection of the vagina.

It's normal for women to have good and bad bacteria in the vagina. BV is caused by having too much bad bacteria.

BV is common in our community.

## How do you get BV?

BV is **not** a sexually transmissible infection (STI). You don't get it from sex. But the symptoms are similar and you can get tested when you have STI tests done.

## Symptoms - how would I know if I had BV?

BV doesn't always have symptoms or signs.

BV can make the vagina itchy, with a burning feeling. Some women get a white or grey discharge from the vagina. The discharge might be smelly – especially after sex.

The only way of knowing you have BV is to get tested.

## Get tested

Testing for BV is simple and done at the clinic. You can get tested for BV as part of your women's health check – just ask.

If you have symptoms get tested as soon as you can.

Pregnant women should test.

The test is done in private. They will test a swab from your vagina.

## Get treated

BV is easily treated with vaginal cream and tablets.