

FACT SHEET- MYCOPLASMA GENITALIUM

What is *Mycoplasma genitalium* (MG)?

MG is a bacterium that has been recently identified as a sexually transmitted infection. It can infect the mucus membranes of the urethra, cervix, throat, and anus. It is transmitted via vaginal, anal, and oral sex.

What are the symptoms?

MG infection can be silent (no symptoms) or can present with:

Males	Females
Penile discharge Stinging or burning on passing urine	Pain in the pelvis and during sexual intercourse Abnormal vaginal discharge

How is MG tested for?

MG is tested for on a swab or urine in the same way as the laboratory tests for chlamydia infection

How is MG treated?

MG is treated with antibiotics. Unfortunately antibiotic resistance is a problem and you may need to have a second course if the first one doesn't clear the infection

How do I know if the infection is gone?

You will be tested again 3-4 weeks after antibiotic treatment. If the test is still positive, you will be prescribed a different antibiotic.

Should my partner/s be treated?

Yes, it is important to tell all sexual partners from the past three months of your diagnosis and suggest they have testing and treatment. You must use condoms during sex for a week after antibiotic treatment.

How do I avoid getting MG infection again?

The best protection is to use condoms with all sexual activity – i.e. practice safe sex. More information can be found here - <https://www.ashs.org.nz/>.