

# STI Research

<b>Objective:</b>	Participants will identify and describe the most common STIs.
<b>Structure:</b>	Small group.
<b>Time:</b>	30 minutes plus one class/session for presentations.
<b>Materials:</b>	"STI Research" handout, "STI Research" answer key, flipchart/blackboard

## Procedure

1. **Divide** the class into 8 groups. Distribute the "STI Research" handout to each group. Each group will pick one of the following STIs to research and present: chlamydia, gonorrhea, human papilloma virus (HPV), herpes, syphilis, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis (B and C) and vaginal infections (yeast, vaginitis and trichomonas).
2. **Explain** the group assignment:
  - Complete the worksheet by using the Internet, resources in the library, or fact sheets/pamphlets (call your local public health unit or planned parenthood affiliate for copies).
  - Plan a report on the STI for the class.
3. **Have** groups make their presentations.
4. **Discuss** the group assignments. Ask participants:
  - What are some common symptoms of STIs?
  - How are STIs transmitted?
  - Do any of these diseases have the same treatment?
  - What are some of the common treatments?
  - What generalizations can we make about preventing transmission of STIs?
5. **Conclude** by pointing out that abstaining from intercourse is the only 100% effective method of prevention. Engaging in lower risk sexual activities also decreases risk. If having sex, it is important to use condoms each and every time.

## **Extension**

**Instruct** each small group to create a poster, pamphlet, or fact sheet using the information collected from the “STI Research” handout. These items can be displayed/distributed to increase awareness, particularly during STI or HIV awareness week.

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(Adapted with permission from: Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada (2001) *Beyond the Basics: A Sourcebook on Sexual and Reproductive Health Education*. Ottawa: Author.)

**Handout**

**STI Research**

Name of STI:

1. What are the symptoms of this STI?
2. How is this STI transmitted from person to person?
3. What are some of the effects of this STI?
4. How can this STI be treated?
5. How can this STI be prevented?