

**Answer Key**

**STI Research**

<b>STI</b>	<b>Symptoms</b>	<b>Transmission</b>	<b>Effects</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Prevention</b>
Chlamydia (bacteria)	Often no symptoms. Discharge from genitals. Burning/pain while urinating. Pain in pelvic area/during intercourse. Unusual vaginal bleeding.	Unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex.	Can cause sterility, pelvic inflammatory disease.	Cured with antibiotics.	Abstaining from intercourse. Condom use.
Gonorrhea (bacteria)	Often no symptoms. Discharge from genitals. Burning/pain while urinating. Pain in pelvic area/during intercourse. Increased pain during menstrual periods.	Unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex.	Can cause sterility, pelvic inflammatory disease.	Cured with antibiotics.	Abstaining from intercourse. Condom use.
Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) (virus)	Often no symptoms. Symptoms can sometimes take years. Cervical changes. Warts that have cauliflower-like appearance.	Direct contact of the skin or lining of the vagina or rectum.	Increased risk of cervical cancer. More warts can grow.	Cannot be cured. Symptoms treated with liquid nitrogen, laser treatment or other medications.	Abstaining from intercourse. Condom use. Regular pap test.
Herpes (virus)	Incubation can last years. Flu-like feelings. Small, painful blisters on genitals or mouth (cold sores).	Direct contact of the skin.	Blisters may recur.	Cannot be cured. Symptoms managed with drug therapy.	Abstaining from intercourse. Condom use. Avoid sexual contact at first sign of outbreak (tingling or redness) and when sores present.

Hepatitis B & C (virus)	Virus	Often no symptoms. Flu-like symptoms. Jaundice.	Unprotected sex. Sharing needles. Mother to child transmission.	Liver disease. Cancer of liver.	Cannot be cured. Sometimes the virus goes away on its own. Antiviral medication for Hepatitis C.	Hepatitis B vaccination. Abstaining from intercourse. Condom use. Do not share needles or other drug equipment. Do not share toothbrushes or razors. Universal precautions.
Syphilis (virus)	Virus	Often no symptoms. 1 <sup>st</sup> stage: painless, open sore on mouth or genitals (will disappear). 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage: rash, flu-like symptoms. 3 <sup>rd</sup> stage: damage to vital organs	Unprotected vaginal, oral, or anal sex. Mother to child.	If untreated, can cause damage to heart, liver, brain and eyes.	Cured with penicillin injections.	Abstaining from intercourse. Condom use.
Vaginal infections (yeast, vaginitis, trichomonas) (bacteria)	Bacteria	At times no symptoms. Females: unusual vaginal discharge or odour; vaginal itching & redness; burning with urination; pain during intercourse. Males: may have itching or rash on penis.	Sometimes spread through sexual contact but some types are not (e.g. antibiotic use).		Cured with antibiotics.	Abstaining from intercourse. Condom use. Wipe from front to back. Do not douche. Wear cotton underwear. Do not wear underwear to bed. Urinate after intercourse.
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) (virus)	Virus	Often no symptoms. Flu-like feelings, unexplained weight loss, night sweats, persistent diarrhea.	Unprotected vaginal, oral, anal sex. Sharing needles. Mother to child transmission.	Can lead to AIDS & many life- threatening diseases.	Cannot be cured. Many medications available to manage the virus.	Abstaining from intercourse. Condom use. Do not share needles or other drug equipment. Universal precautions.