



Up to 25% of vaginal infections are caused by **multiple organisms** which are difficult to detect.^{1,2}

*It's important to identify the **correct** organism for treatment to be successful.*

For more information about vaginal infections or the BD Affirm VP111 test, please see your doctor.

Vaginal Infections

Be Informed. Be Aware.

Vaginal infections may be a risk to your health.



Have you experienced recurring vaginal infections?
Have you tried over-the-counter medications for your vaginal infection without success?

*If you answered yes, it may be because **many** organisms cause vaginal infections.*



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Helping all people
live healthy lives

Be Informed. Up to 90% of all vaginal infections fall into three categories:

- Bacterial infections
- Yeast infections
- Parasitic infections

For greater certainty—you should be tested for **all three** types of infection.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

Bacterial Infection. Bacterial Vaginosis (BV) is the most common vaginal infection. Symptoms include a strong, unpleasant odor, a thin, milky discharge and pain when urinating. Untreated Bacterial Vaginosis may lead to:

- Pre-mature delivery in pregnant women
- Low-birth weight baby
- Susceptibility to HIV if exposed to the virus
- Development of PID (Pelvic Inflammatory Disease)*



50% of women with BV have no symptoms.³

Yeast Infection. Is the second most common vaginal infection. Women with yeast infections can have vaginal itching, soreness and discharge.

CAN MY PARTNER BE INFECTED?

Yeast infections are not usually acquired through sexual intercourse. Treatment of sex partners is not recommended, but may be considered in women who have recurrent infections.



Most women will get a yeast infection at least once during their lifetime and 50% will get re-infected.³

Parasitic Infection. The third most common infection is referred to as Trichomoniasis or Trich. It is spread by sexual contact. Symptoms may include:

- A frothy gray or yellow-green discharge
- Discomfort during intercourse and urination
- Irritation and itching
- Lower abdominal pain in rare cases

Trich has been suggested to be associated with:

- Difficult pregnancy and/or delivery
- Pre-term labor
- PID (Pelvic inflammatory disease)*
- Increased risk for HIV infection if exposed to the virus

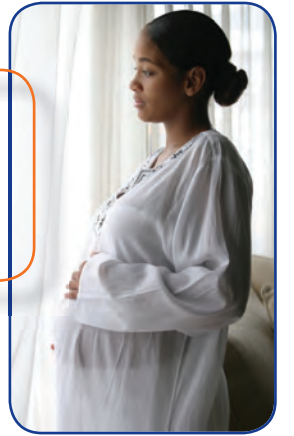


Up to 50% of women infected with Trich have no symptoms.³

What should I do? If you suspect you have a vaginal infection, see your doctor. If your doctor confirms you have a vaginal infection, ask for the BD Affirm™ DNA test.

Affirm is the only test that utilizes DNA technology to detect and differentiate the three organisms that cause up to 90% of all vaginal infections: bacterial, yeast and parasitic infections.

The Affirm test will provide your physician the accurate results to prescribe the appropriate therapy—the first time—which may lead to quicker recovery.



Ask your physician if the Affirm DNA test is right for you.

What if I'm pregnant? If you are experiencing any of the symptoms discussed here, you should be tested and treated appropriately.

Be Aware. Ask your doctor for the **only DNA test** that quickly identifies the three most common vaginal infections from a single sample – BD Affirm VPIII.

* Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) is an infection of the uterus and fallopian tubes. PID can lead to infertility or ectopic pregnancy through damage to the fallopian tubes.

REFERENCES

- 1 Master et al. 1998. Abstr. C-165, p. 158. Abstr. 98th Gen. Mtg. Am. Soc. Microbiol.
- 2 Ferris et al. 1996. J. Fam. Pract. 41 (6):575-581.
- 3 Source: <http://www2a.cdc.gov/stdtraining/self-study/vaginitis.asp>