



## MYCOPLASMA GENITALIUM MG

### WHAT IS MYCOPLASMA GENITALIUM?

Mg is a bacterium that infects the urethra, cervix and anus.

### HOW IS IT TRANSMITTED?

It is transmitted by vaginal and anal sex.

### WHAT ARE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS?

#### **Men**

Some men will have no symptoms. Those who do may have:

- Inflammation of the urethra (the urine passage)
- Stinging or burning when passing urine
- A discharge from the penis

#### **Women**

Less is known about Mg infection in women. However, Mg has been shown to infect the cervix. Women who have symptoms may experience:

- Pain in the pelvic area and pain during sexual intercourse
- An abnormal vaginal discharge
- Burning when passing urine
- Abnormal vaginal bleeding

### HOW DO YOU TEST FOR MYCOPLASMA GENITALIUM?

We test a urine sample, a urethral or an anal swab in men. In women a urine sample, vaginal or cervical swab of secretions is taken.

### HOW IS MYCOPLASMA GENITALIUM TREATED?

At MSHC, we treat Mg with two courses of different antibiotic. It is important to complete the second course of antibiotic to cure the infection, because many infections are resistant to common antibiotics.

### WHEN IS IT SAFE TO HAVE SEX AGAIN?

To allow the antibiotics time to work you should not have sex or you should use condoms 100% of the time for all sexual contact until you and your partner have follow up negative Mg tests.

### DO I NEED FURTHER TESTS AFTER I'VE BEEN TREATED?

Yes. A test of cure one month after starting treatment is needed to make sure that the antibiotics worked. Not all treatments are successful and some people have no symptoms so you should have this test.

### SHOULD MY SEXUAL PARTNERS ALSO BE TREATED?

Yes. Tell all recent sexual partners that you have been diagnosed with Mg and ask them to be treated. If possible get them to attend MSHC because we use antibiotics which may be hard to get elsewhere. If you have difficulty telling your partners, you can visit [www.letthemknow.org.au](http://www.letthemknow.org.au). As well as general advice and sample conversations it has emails, SMSs and letters you can send to your partners either personally or anonymously. Tests for Mycoplasma genitalium(MG) are only available in some clinics.

### HOW DO I AVOID GETTING MYCOPLASMA GENITALIUM AGAIN?

Using condoms all of the time for vaginal and anal sex i.e. safe sex practices.

#### **DISCLAIMER:**

This fact sheet is designed to provide you with information on *Mycoplasma Genitalium*(MG). It is not intended to replace the need for a consultation with your doctor. All clients are strongly advised to check with their doctor about any specific questions or concerns they may have. Every effort has been taken to ensure that the information in this pamphlet is correct at the time of printing.

