



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTER

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Trichomonas

Trichomonas is an infection caused by a flagellated organism called a trichomonad. It may cause symptoms in both men and women and can be passed between sexual partners.

Symptoms

- Yellow foul-smelling discharge from the vagina or penis
- Itching and irritation of the vagina
- Occasional painful urination
- Symptoms can disappear with time, even if the infection is untreated and still present

Treatment

Flagyl (Metronidazole) is the drug usually prescribed for both the patient and his/her sexual partner.

Do not drink any alcoholic beverages while taking Flagyl or for 48 hours after completing treatment or it will cause nausea and vomiting.

Flagyl may interfere with birth control pill use. Continue using the birth control pill while you are being treated for trichomonas. If you have intercourse while you are being treated, use an additional method of birth control for the rest of the pill package. Latex condoms are probably the best choice. However, abstinence until completion of treatment by both partners is strongly recommended.

Prevention

- Use condoms to help prevent sexually transmitted disease.

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