

## maci āhpinēwin | Syphilis

ōma pimācihowin, miyo pimātisiwin  
kiyānow ōma, kasītoskamahk,  
ka-kiskinohtahīyak, māka cīhkēyihtākwān  
isiyīniw ka yōhtēnamaht iskwāhtēm,  
ēkosi ōma ka-māmawi-atoskātamahk,  
kā-wīcihiyak isiyīniwak.

This life, a good life, is our responsibility,  
to support, to provide guidance, most  
importantly to open the doorway that is  
collectively working together in helping  
our people.

### paskwāwiyīniw

- maci āhpinēwin oma kakē  
āsōkāmaſw isiyīniw kīspin  
ka-wihpēmat. kīspin namōya  
ki-nakātohan sōhki āhkosowin  
kati-iyān. maka, maskihkiy  
ihtakwan ka-nipāhtāht ōma  
āhkosowin.
- maci āhpinēwin kakē āsōnāmākan  
omisi: masiwēwin, mitōnihk ohci  
ka-nōhtwāsiwēwicik, mitāhkahk  
ekwa miciskihk ohci.
- maci āhpinēwin kakē āsōnamākēw  
iskwēw kishkawāwasow.
- kakē nākatōkan ekwa kakē nakinēn  
oma maci āhpinēwin.
- poko maskihkiy iyiniw ta-wāpimat  
ki-mihkom ka-otinahk  
isi-kiskēyihtaman kīspin kiyayān  
oma āhkosowin.

ayamihcikē kisipin nōhtē kiskēyiten ekwa  
nōhtē kakwēcīhkēmowin kikway oma

### Introduction

- Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection (STI). Untreated syphilis can lead to serious health problems. The good news is that syphilis can be cured with antibiotics.
- Syphilis is usually passed during sexual contact, including oral, vaginal and anal sex.
- Syphilis can also be passed from a pregnant person to a child during pregnancy or childbirth.
- There are ways to prevent getting or passing syphilis.
- The only way to know if you have syphilis is to get tested.

Read on for answers to common  
questions about syphilis.

### What is syphilis?

Syphilis is an STI caused by a kind of

maci āhpinēwin.

## kīkway oma maci āhpinēwin?

maci āhpinēwin oma āhkosowin isiýiniw kapān āsōnamākēt. namōya kīkway ki-mōsihtān kīspin kiyayān oma āhkosowin. māci mōsihtān apisi-omikiy, nānitaw mitakay, mitāhkay, miciskihk, ekwa mitōnihk. kīspin namōya ki-nākatōkan kotaka āhkosowin tāpiskōc mōskipayiwīn, tēyistikwānan, ekwa ka-pahkihtina mēscakāsa, maka, mōya kinwēsk ēkosi kisiyān.

kīspin namōya ki-nākatōkan, mistahi ki-misiwanachitan miyaw ekwa atāmiyawa, ēkota ekwa sōhki kāti-miyāyan ekwa ahpō kakē poni-pimātisin.

kakē nanātawihkahtēw maskihkiya ihtākwan ekwa kakē nakinēn, ekwa namōya kakē āsōnāmākan oma maci āhpinēwin.

## awīna kakē āhkosiw ekwa tānisi kakē nakinēn?

- maci āhpinēwin kakē āsōnāmākan ka-wihpēmācik awiya kiyāyit.
- maci āhpinēwin kakē āsōnamākēw iskwēw kishkawāwasow.
- maci āhpinēwin kakē āsōnāmākan kīspin māmawī āpacihcikana ohki

bacteria. Many people with syphilis do not notice any symptoms. Soon after a person gets syphilis, a small, painless sore may appear on, in or around the site of first exposure (penis, vagina, rectum or mouth). If the infection is left untreated, other symptoms may occur like rashes, headaches and hair loss but these usually disappear within the first few months.

Importantly, untreated syphilis stays in the body and can eventually damage the nervous system and organs, leading to serious health problems and potentially becoming life-threatening.

Syphilis can be cured with antibiotics. This prevents further damage and stops syphilis from being passed to others.

## How does someone get syphilis and how can this be prevented?

- Syphilis is usually passed during sexual contact, including vaginal, frontal, anal and oral sex.
- Syphilis is easily passed from a pregnant person to a child during pregnancy or childbirth.
- Syphilis may also be passed when sharing equipment used to inject drugs, although this is very rare
- There is no vaccine for syphilis so it's important to do what you can

ka-cīstahisowcik.

- nama kīkway cīstahowēwin ihtākwan, poko nākatēyihēmowin namōya ka kāhcitinaman oma āhkosowin.

tānisi kakē nakinēn maci āhpinēwin:

- aspimōchikan kwayask āpacihta tāpitaw kāwi-wīhpēmaht awiyak
- otina doxycycline, maskihkiy poko maskihkiyiniw / maskihkiy atoskahkan kamēsk.
- kīspin kitiyēhtēn eh-katināman oma āhkosowin, sēmak wāpim maskihkiy iḡiniw, namōya ka-āsōnamāwāw kiwīcēwākan.
- kīspin māmawi āpacihcikana kitāpacitan, kakwē āpacihta osk-āyi āpacihcikana

**tānisi kiskiyitēn kīspin kitayān maci āhpinēwin?**

mistahi iḡiniw namōya kīstēyihitam kīspin ayāw maci āhpinēwin.

poko ka-wāpamaht maskihkiy iḡiniw ahpō maskihkiy atoskahkan kawahpēnikēht kīspin kitayān āhkosowin.

kakwēcimāw maskihkiy iḡiniw ka-ōtēnahk ki-mihkom kīspin kimāwēyihitēn āhkosin, ōki kotak āhkosowina ka-nitōnamowak: iḡiniw

to prevent getting syphilis.

There are many ways to prevent syphilis:

- Use condoms the right way each time you have sex.
- Take doxycycline, an antibiotic you have to get from a healthcare provider (sometimes referred to as doxy-prevention).
- If you think you may have been exposed to syphilis, get tested and cured right away to prevent passing syphilis to your sex partner(s).
- If you inject drugs, avoid sharing by using new equipment every time you inject drugs.

**How do I know if I have syphilis?**

Many people who have syphilis have no obvious symptoms. **You can have syphilis and not know it.**

The only way to know if you have syphilis is to get tested.

Ask a healthcare provider for a syphilis test. You may want to get tested for other infections at the same time, like HIV, gonorrhea, chlamydia, hepatitis B and hepatitis C.

**Can syphilis be cured?**

Syphilis can be cured! Syphilis can be

wahkēhpīnēwin manicōs, maci  
āhpīnēwina, ekwa oskonāhpīnēwin.

### **kakē nanātawih̄tan ci maci āhpīnēwin?**

maci āhpīnēwin kakē nanātawih̄tan! maci  
āhpīnēwin kakē nanātawih̄tan ohci  
maskih̄kiya.

kīspin maci āhpīnēwin kitayān, pīkiskwās  
maskih̄kiy atoskahākan. wīpac kīspin  
ka-wāpamiht, kwayask kati miyo-ayān.

### **kakē katinēn maci āhpīnēwin kīhtwām?**

kīspin kīhtwām kikatinēn maci āhpīnēwin,  
kā-kīhtwām kakatinēn. makana, kaki  
nanāhtawih̄kawin.

### **kakē āsōnāmowāw maci āhpīnēwin kipēpīsim?**

maci āhpīnēwin kakē āsōnāmākan  
ayāwāwasowin, ekwa pwāwīwin.  
Congenital maci āhpīnēwin isiyih̄kātēw  
oma ka-kikiskawāwasot iskwēw.  
Congenital maci āhpīnēwin kakē  
osikowisow, kakē misiwācihow  
apiscawāsis. awāsisak ka-nihtāwikicik  
ka-iyahcik maci āhpīnēwin, miyo kwayask  
itamahcihowak ekwa sohki āhkosowak.

cured with antibiotics with few, if any,  
side effects.

If you have syphilis, speak to a healthcare  
provider about your treatment options.  
The earlier the infection is treated and  
cured, the better it is for your health.

### **Can I get syphilis again?**

Having had syphilis does not make you  
immune. **You can get syphilis again if you  
come in contact with it again.**

**The good news is that it can be treated  
and cured again.**

### **Can you pass syphilis on to your baby?**

Syphilis can be easily passed from a  
pregnant person to their child during  
pregnancy or childbirth. This is known as  
congenital syphilis. Congenital syphilis  
can result in miscarriage, stillbirth or the  
death of a newborn. Children born with  
syphilis can develop very serious health  
problems and developmental disorders.

If you are pregnant or thinking of  
becoming pregnant, get tested for  
syphilis. If you are at ongoing risk of  
syphilis, get tested throughout  
pregnancy. **If you test positive, get  
treated right away to avoid passing  
syphilis to your baby.**

kīspin nōhtē otawāsimisin, poko  
kantōwāwinkāhk kīspin kitayān maci  
āhpinēwin. kīspin ka-kīhtwām miskatēw  
maci āhpinēwin, poko tāpitaw maskihkiy  
atoskahākan ka-wāpamiht. ēkāwiya  
ka-āsōskamawāt kipēpīsim.

### **tānitē ka-nanātawihimsōwin ohci maci āhpinēwin?**

- pīkiskwās maskihkiy atoskahākan,  
ohci maci āhpinēwin.
- ka-miskawāwak ka-nākatēyohcik,  
ka-kiskinwahnākēcik oma maci  
āhpinēwin ōta,  
<https://where.to.catie.ca>

### **Where can I get syphilis services?**

- Speak to a healthcare provider  
about syphilis.
- Find syphilis services in your area  
at <https://where.to.catie.ca>.