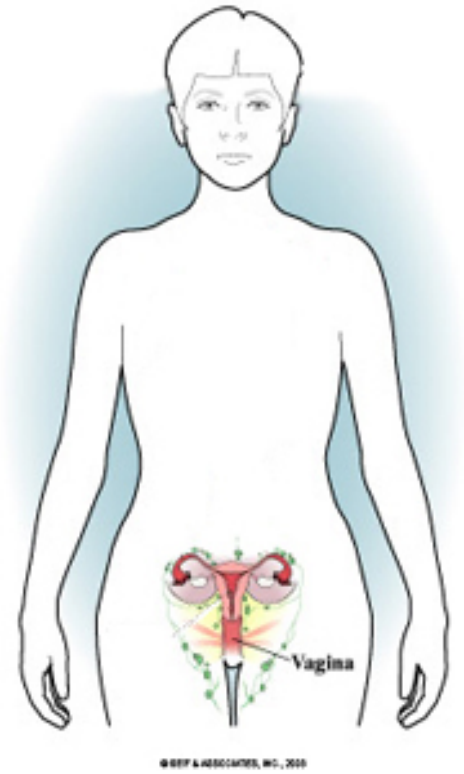
Bacterial Vaginosis

Bacterial vaginosis is an infection in the vagina. It is the most common vaginal infection in women of childbearing age. Symptoms of BV include:



- Discharge.
- Odor or smell.
- Pain.
- Itching.
- Burning.

HOME CARE

- Take medicine until it is all gone, even if you feel better.
  - Keep taking your medicine even if your period starts.
- **Do not** have sex until you finish your medicine.
- Ask about eating yogurt or taking pills with antibiotics.
- Always wipe from front to back after going to the bathroom.
- You may use a squirt bottle with warm water to clean the area.
- **Do not** use tampons or wear a pad.
- **Do not** douche or use cream from the drug store.
- Wash your hands often.
- Practice safe sex. Use condoms. Only have one sex partner.
- Tell your sexual partner that you have a vaginal infection. They should see their doctor and be treated if they have problems, such as a mild rash or itching.
- Only take medicine as directed by your doctor.

GET HELP RIGHT AWAY IF YOU:

- Develop pain in your belly.
- Have to urinate (pee) more often or it burns when you urinate.
- Develop a temperature of 102° F (38.9° C) or higher.
- See blood in your urine and it is not time for your period.
- Are not getting better after 3 days of treatment.

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Understand these instructions.
- Will watch your condition.
- Will get help right away if you are not doing well or get worse.

Easy-to-Read style based on content from Parkland Health & Hospital System, Dallas, Texas

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