

Are you pregnant?

Have you been checked for syphilis?



What is syphilis?

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection (STI) that is caused by a bacteria. Syphilis rates are increasing across Ontario and our region.

Why does this matter to me?

In our area some babies have been born with syphilis. If you are pregnant and have syphilis, you can pass it on to your baby. Getting treated early is important to try to prevent birth defects or stillbirth.

Getting tested

- Get tested for syphilis three times during your pregnancy:
 - » at the beginning,
 - » at 28 to 32 weeks, and
 - » when you deliver your baby.
- Your partner(s) should be tested for syphilis regularly as well.
- If you have tested positive for syphilis (during this pregnancy or in the past), get tested monthly during your pregnancy.

Getting antibiotic treatment

Syphilis can be cured with antibiotics. Treatment for syphilis is safe during pregnancy. The person who tested you for syphilis will help you get antibiotics.

If you have questions contact KFL&A Public Health at 613-549-1232, ext. 1275 or email sh@kflaph.ca.