



Number of people infected with HIV

	Italy	Slovakia	Serbia	Greece
Adult HIV patients	140.000	1700	4000	15000
INFECTED WOMEN	40000/140000	500/1700	1000/4000	2700/15000
New infections	1700	200	200	100
Deaths from AIDS	1000	100	100	100

HIV

HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is a virus that attacks cells that help the body fight infection, making a person more vulnerable to other infections and diseases. It is spread by contact with certain bodily fluids of a person with HIV, most commonly during unprotected sex (sex without a condom or HIV medicine to prevent or treat HIV), or through sharing injection drug equipment. If left untreated, HIV can lead to the disease AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome).

The only way to know for sure if you have HIV is to get tested. Testing is relatively simple. You can ask your health care provider for an HIV test.

Prevention

The only prevention from infection is to avoid behaviors that may expose you to the risk of contagion. During sexual intercourse, it is necessary to use a condom

How HIV is transmitted

The transmission routes are:

- **Sexual**: through unprotected heterosexual or homosexual intercourse without an effective prevention method
- **Bloodborne**: sharing needles or equipment for drug use; transfusions of contaminated blood, sharing razors, scissors, or heavily contaminated objects
- **Vertical**: from mother to infant during pregnancy, at the time of delivery, and, more rarely, through breastfeeding.

How HIV is not transmitted

Is not transmitted:

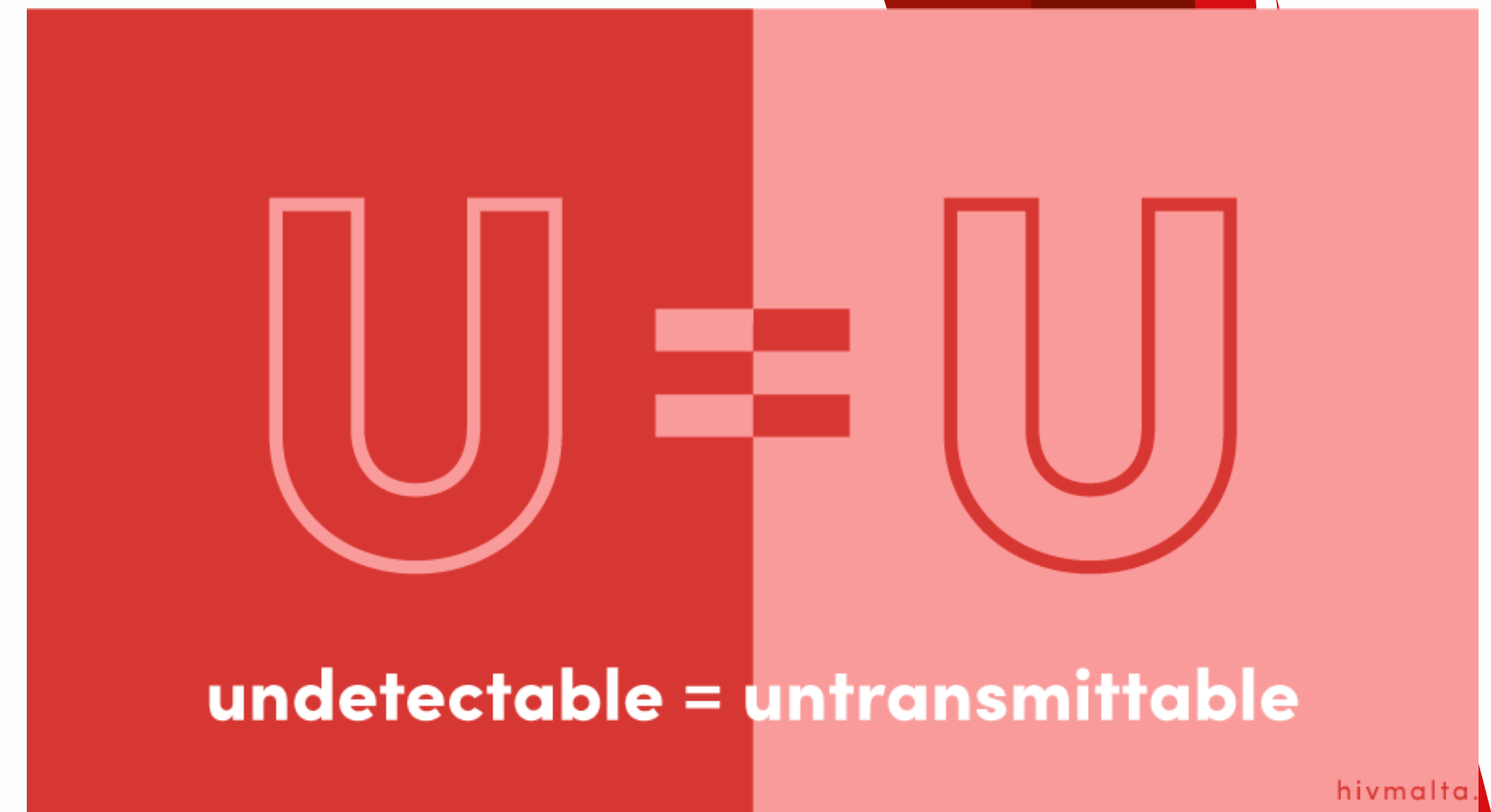
- through **saliva**, tears, sweat, urine, or mosquito bites.
- by **sharing dishes**, bathrooms, gyms, swimming pools, or other shared spaces.
- through **caresses** or kisses.

U=U

It has since been demonstrated that if the therapy is effective, it completely eliminates the risk of sexual transmission. In other words, a person with HIV who is regularly following their treatment and has an undetectable viral load does not transmit the virus to their partners during unprotected sex.

This evidence is represented by the acronym **U=U**, which stands for **Undetectable = Untransmittable**: if the viral load is undetectable, the risk of transmission is zero.

This certainty is based on the surprising results of the Partner study, conducted between 2010 and 2018. The study only enrolled people on treatment with a viral load below 200 copies, and demonstrated that below this threshold, **the risk of transmission is scientifically zero.**





Papilloma virus

HPV stands for human papilloma virus.

HPV is a common sexually transmitted infection.

Most types of HPV cause lesions like warts on the skin and papillomas on the genital and oral mucous membranes. Usually, genital HPV infections heal on their own. However, in some cases, if left untreated, these infections can slowly develop into cancer.

Prevention

The spread of HPV warts can be reduced by avoiding risky, casual, or multiple sexual partners, and by always using a condom. The only effective way to prevent infection is vaccination.





SYPHILIS

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection (**STI**) caused by the bacterium *Treponema pallidum*. Worldwide, it is the third most common bacterial STI after chlamydia and gonorrhoea.

Syphilis is transmitted through any kind of sexual intercourse and with blood.

Between infection and the onset of the first symptoms, 10 to 90 days may pass.

Prevention

Prevention is based on the use of condoms in all sexual relations.

It is necessary to avoid sexual relations while undergoing treatment.

1

Primary Stage:

Is characterised by the presence of an ulcer that may appear on the genitals, anus, mouth or throat, and which appears as a dark red lesion. The ulcer heals spontaneously without results within 3-6 weeks.

2

Secondary Stage

After 2-8 weeks, it manifests itself with the appearance of pinkish spots on the skin all over the body. Symptoms such as fever, sore throat, gastrointestinal disorders and bone pain are also possible.

3

Latent Stage:

In this stage, which can last up to two years, symptoms are absent but the person is still ill. Most people, if treated correctly, recover.

4

Late Stage:

It occurs many years after infection, if the disease has not been treated. Bones, tendons, stomach, liver, spleen and lungs may also be affected at this stage.



GENITAL HERPES

Genital herpes is an infection caused by the very common herpes simplex virus (HSV).

Genital herpes is highly contagious and is mainly transmitted during sexual intercourse of all types through body fluids or direct contact of the vesicles with the genitals.

Prevention

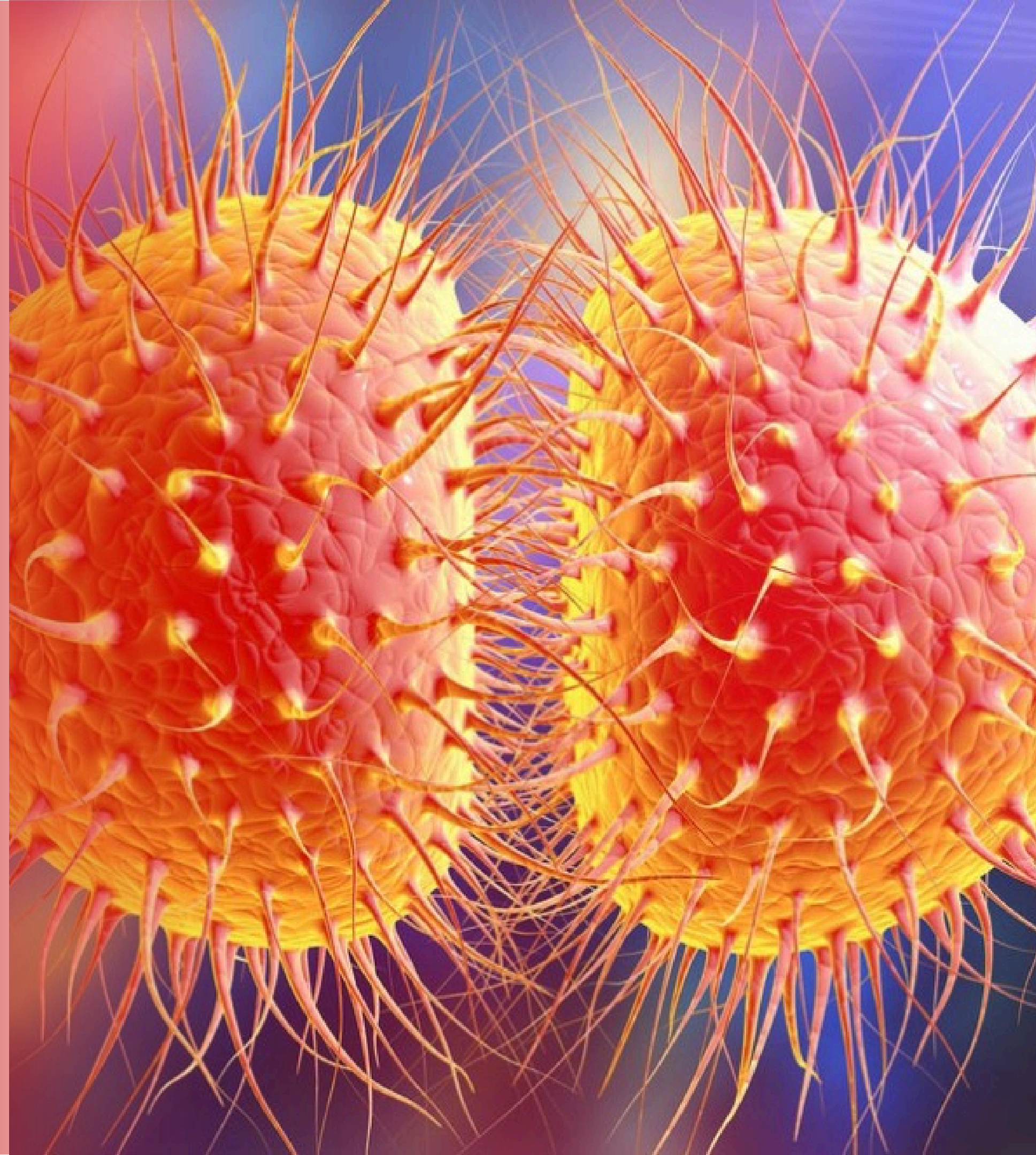
The risk of genital herpes transmission can be reduced by using condoms correctly and consistently. Persons with genital herpes should abstain from sexual activity when blisters or other symptoms are present.

Symptoms

After about 4-7 days, the disease manifests itself with itching, pain in the genital area, the appearance of blisters in the genital area, and general malaise. After 2-3 weeks from their appearance, the blisters turn into ulcers and disappear in a few days, but the virus remains latent and may recur cyclically.

GONORRHEA

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted infection (**STI**) and is the second most common bacterial STI worldwide, after chlamydia. It is caused by a bacterium called *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and can spread through all types of sexual contact (vaginal, anal, and oral). A woman with gonorrhea can pass the infection to her baby during childbirth.



PREVENTION

To prevent gonorrhea:

- Avoid casual sexual encounters
- Avoid sex with infected partners
- Use protection during sex
- Correctly use condoms

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms include:

- Urethritis, causing burning and difficulty urinating
- Cervicitis with yellow-green discharge
- Pain during or after sex
- Vaginal itching and/or trouble urinating
- Gonorrhea can also infect the throat, causing pharyngitis

If untreated, it can lead to serious complications:

- In women, it can damage the fallopian tubes, causing infertility or ectopic pregnancy
- In men, it can cause epididymitis, which may lead to infertility if not treated

A detailed microscopic illustration of a cell. Inside the cell, there is a cluster of numerous small, red, spherical bacteria, likely Chlamydia trachomatis. Next to this cluster is a larger, purple, oval-shaped structure. The background of the cell is a reddish-brown, textured surface.

CHLAMYDIA

Chlamydia is one of the most common sexually transmitted infections (STIs) caused by a bacterium called *Chlamydia trachomatis*. Symptoms are often mild or

absent making it hard to detect. However, it can cause serious damage to the reproductive system, especially in women. Chlamydia spreads through all types of sexual contact (vaginal, anal, and oral).

SYMPTOMS

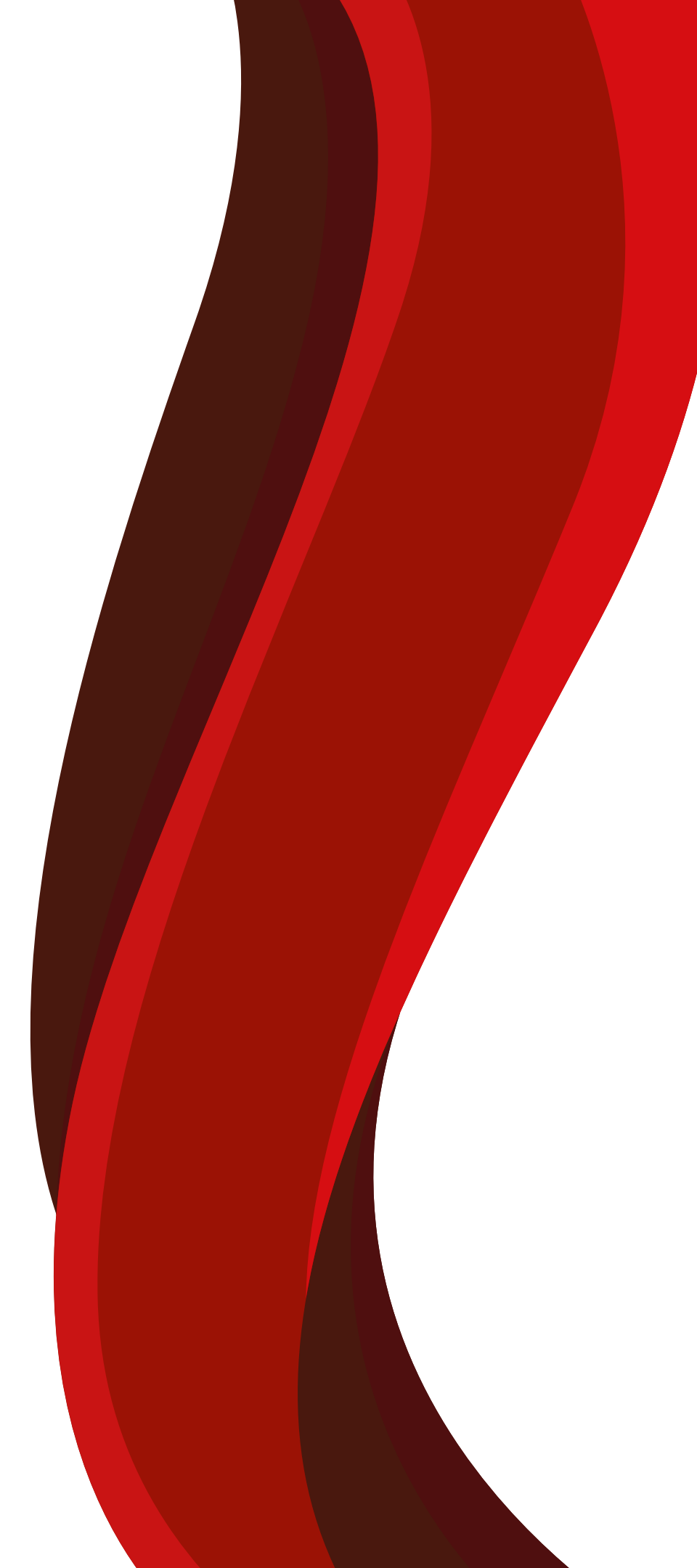
Chlamydia is usually asymptomatic or may cause mild symptoms that appear 1-3 weeks after infection. Symptoms include:

- Painful urination
- Red spots on the genitals
- Lower abdominal pain or heaviness
- Itching, burning, and irritation in the genital or pubic area
- Vaginal bleeding in women
- Painful intercourse in women
- Testicular pain in men
- Rectal pain in both men and women
- Swollen lymph nodes in the groin

PREVENTION

You can prevent chlamydia and other STIs by:

- Maintaining good sexual hygiene (before and after sex)
- Using protection, such as condoms, during sex.





**Thank you for
your attention**