



## Mucopurulent Cervicitis

### What is Mucopurulent cervicitis?

Mucopurulent cervicitis (MPC), is inflammation of the cervix (the opening to the uterus or womb) characterized by yellow or white discharge. Mucopurulent secretions are part mucus and part white blood cell inflammation (pus). MPC is diagnosed when pus or bleeding is seen during a pelvic exam.

### How do you get MPC?

MPC may be caused by anal, vaginal or oral sex with an infected person. However, MPC is not always sexually transmitted. MPC may sometimes be caused by other conditions or problems unrelated to sexual activity.

### How can you protect yourself from MPC?

The best ways to avoid MPC are to:

- Not have sex.
- Limit your number of sex partners.
- Use a latex condom correctly each time you have sex.
- Talk to your sex partners about sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

### What are the symptoms of MPC?

Most people have no symptoms. The most common symptom is an odorless yellow or white vaginal discharge. You should call a health care provider or the Guilford County Department of Public Health right away if you have this symptom or if you have had sex with someone with an STI. Since the symptoms of STIs often resemble one another, diagnosis by a health care provider is the only way to know for sure if you are infected. Let your health care provider know if you are pregnant.

### Is MPC dangerous?

If left untreated, certain infections can cause serious reproductive and other health problems.

- Untreated STIs can spread into the uterus or fallopian tubes and cause pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), or if you are pregnant and have untreated MPC, you may lose your baby.
- PID can cause permanent damage to the fallopian tubes, uterus and surrounding tissues. The damage can lead to chronic pelvic pain, infertility and a potentially fatal ectopic pregnancy (pregnancy outside the uterus).

### Is there a cure for MPC?

Antibiotics are usually used to treat and cure MPC.

### Can you still have sex when you have MPC?

It is recommended that you not have sex until:

- You have finished all of your medicine.
- Your sex partners have been treated and have finished all of their medicine.

### Who can I call for more information?

American Social Health Association Hotline: 1-800-227-8922

[www.ashastd.org](http://www.ashastd.org)

Guilford County Department of Public Health

Greensboro or High Point: 336-641-7777

[www.myguilford.com](http://www.myguilford.com)