– ATTENTION – Gay, Bisexual, Trans*, and Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) Gonorrhea Health Advisory Drug Resistant Strain in King County

Since February 2014, the Public Health STD Clinic has seen 25 cases of gonorrhea that don't respond to all of the usual antibiotic treatments. All of these cases have occurred in men who have sex with men. Public Health wishes to alert trans* individuals about this problem as well. We can still cure gonorrhea, but drug resistance makes it more difficult.

Gonorrhea is a common sexually transmitted infection (STI). It is easily spread by having condomless anal, oral or vaginal sex. Both men and women can get gonorrhea. If you have symptoms or think you have been exposed, get tested, get treated, and get cured.

Signs & Symptoms

- Many people particularly those with infections of the rectum, vagina or throat – do not have symptoms
- If symptoms do occur, they usually show up 2 to 7 days after exposure, but it can take as long as 30 days
- Pus-like discharge from penis, vagina or anus
- Pain or burning while urinating
- Itching around opening of the penis
- Painful or swollen testicles
- Irritation around the anus; bleeding or painful bowel movements
- Oral infection can feel like a sore throat



What to Do

- Use condoms.
- If you have symptoms or signs of gonorrhea, get medical care.
- Don't have sex until you have completed treatment.
- Tell your sex partners. They should get tested and treated also.
- If you are infected, get tested again in 3 months.
- Test regularly for all STDs, including HIV.
- Make sure your doctor tests all sites: penis, throat, anus, vagina.
- If you do not have HIV, talk to your doctor about pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). Taken daily, PrEP can help protect you from getting HIV.
 For more information go to tinyurl.com/PrEPinformation.

To find out where to get tested and cured, visit our website: <u>tinyurl.com/HIVtestplaces</u>. Untreated, gonorrhea can make it easier to get or transmit HIV.

For more information about Gonorrhea, go to *tinyurl.com/GonorrheaINFO*.

