



## Mycoplasma genitalium

Like the chlamydia bacterium, the bacterium *Mycoplasma genitalium* is sexually transmitted and can cause infection of the urethra and cervix, for example.

### Symptoms

You can develop urethritis, i.e. discharge from the urethra and pain when urinating, and also a vaginal discharge. A *Mycoplasma genitalium* infection can also cause no symptoms at all. In isolated cases, an infected person might suffer symptoms such as abdominal pain, bleeding between periods and inflammation of the epididymis.

### Testing

Tests are carried out in the same way as for chlamydia, by urine samples or samples taken from the urethra, vagina and/or cervix using a cotton swab.

### Treatment

The standard treatment for chlamydia cures *Mycoplasma genitalium* infections in 30-40 % of the cases. However, an antibiotic called azithromycin is more effective against *Mycoplasma genitalium*, and treatment is as follows: tablet Azitromax/Azithromycin, 250 mg, two tablets the first day and one tablet per day for four days after that. Patients should refrain from having sexual intercourse for 14 days, counting from the day the treatment was started.

If a patient should continue to experience symptoms despite their treatment, we recommend a follow-up test 4–5 weeks after treatment was completed.

If the bacterium is resistant to azithromycin another antibiotic will be prescribed and a follow-up test is recommended.

*Mycoplasma genitalium* is not covered by Sweden's Communicable Diseases Act (smittskyddslagen) and a patient is therefore not required to report an infection. However, since the bacterium is transferred via intercourse, if an infection is confirmed, it is important that sexual partners are recommended to take a test.

Appointments for *Mycoplasma genitalium* testing are charged at the same rate as an ordinary doctor's appointment and medication for treatment is issued via prescription.