

Pelvic Pain

What is Pelvic Pain?

- **Pelvic Pain**- Infection of the uterus/womb, fallopian tubes (carry eggs to the uterus), reproductive organs
- **Complication of: STD's/Sexually transmitted Disease**- gonorrhea, chlamydia
- **Can Cause**- infertility, ectopic pregnancy, abscess formation



What are the Symptoms?

- **Serious Consequences**- infertility, ectopic pregnancy (a pregnancy in the fallopian tube or elsewhere outside of the womb), chronic pelvic pain, abscess formation

Causes of Pelvic Pain

- **Pelvic Pain Occurs**- when bacteria move upward from the vagina or cervix (opening of the uterus) into her reproductive organs, cases are from many different organisms, many associated with gonorrhea and chlamydia, a prior episode of PID increases the risk of another episode because the reproductive organs may be damaged during the initial bout of infection
- **Sexually Active Women**- in their child bearing years are most at risk, 25 years or less, the cervix of teenage girls and young women is not fully matured increasing their susceptibility to the STDs



Facts

- **Each Year in the United States**- more than 1 million women experience an episode of pelvic pain
- **Greater Risk**- with multiple sex partners, women who douche (douching changes the vaginal flora (organisms that live in the vagina) in harmful ways and can force bacteria into the upper reproductive organs from the vagina
- **Delayed Treatment**- can lead to infertility or a future ectopic pregnancy because of the damage to the fallopian tubes

What can I do?

- **See your Health Care Provider**- to prescribe antibiotics, does not reverse any damage to the reproductive organs, can prevent severe damage to reproductive organs

