Sexually Transmitted Diseases

What is it?

- **<u>STD</u>** Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Venereal Diseases (VD)
 - Infections- passed from one person to another through sexual intercourse, genital contact, or fluids (semen, blood, vaginal)
 - **Spread** sharing needles, infected blood or body fluids

Signs and Symptoms:

- **<u>Symptoms</u>** show up 1 to 3 weeks after the infection, if symptoms
 - Women's Symptoms- irregular menstrual bleeding, vaginal discharge, lower abdominal pain, pain when urinating, itching, burning, tingling

• Men's Symptoms- pain when urinating, discharge from the penis

Facts:

- <u>Common STD's</u>- Trichomoniasis, Syphilis, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B, Genital Warts, Gonorrhea
- <u>Spread from Mother to Unborn Baby/Infant</u>- Chlamydia, Hepatitis B, Gonorrhea, HIV/AIDs, Herpes Simplex Virus, Syphilis
- <u>Chlamydia</u>- bacterial infection, most difficult to detect
 - o Affects- millions of men and women
 - No Symptoms- 50% of men, 80% of women, both can infect their sex partner/s
- <u>Genital Herpes</u>- caused by a virus (herpes simplex), can also cause cold sores
 - o Easily Spread- sexual contact
 - Symptoms Occur- 2 to 7 days after contact with an infected person, if symptoms
 - Symptoms- painful blisters, sores; headache, fever, swollen glands, muscle aches; sores inside the vagina or urethra causing pain when
 - urinating or vaginal discharge
 - Sores- disappear within 3 weeks, no cure, 4 outbreaks per year is common

What can I do?

- <u>See your Health Care Provider</u>- for more information
- See a Registered Dietitian or a FFF RD- for help as needed



