## STDs are different for women.



SELF CARE = HEALTH CARE

Get tested for STDs.

## FOR WOMEN, SYMPTOMS ARE HARDER TO SEE AND FEEL.

Sores from herpes or syphilis can be inside the vagina. A man can see and be bothered by sores on his penis.

A WOMAN CAN THINK AN STD SYMPTOM IS SOMETHING ELSE. For a woman, discharge, burning and itching can mean something as normal as a yeast infection.

STDs can lead to serious, life-long health problems for a woman: MISCARRIAGE, INFERTILITY AND ECTOPIC PREGNANCY.

HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV) IS THE MOST COMMON STD IN WOMEN AND THE MAIN CAUSE OF CERVICAL CANCER.



**Syphilis** can cause congenital syphilis (CS) in an infant. CS can cause low-birth weight, brain damage, blindness, deafness or death.

For infants, **gonorrhea** can cause infections that lead to blindness—**chlamydia** can cause eye and lung infections.

STDS CAN PASS FROM A MOTHER TO HER INFANT DURING PREGNANCY AND DELIVERY.

A mother with **HIV** can deliver an infant with HIV who will need to be treated. A mother under treatment for HIV can stop the spread of infection to her infant.

Florida HEALTH

A mother with **hepatitis B** can deliver an infant with hepatitis B. About 1 out of 4 infants with the disease will die of liver failure or liver cancer as adults.

FloridaHealth.gov/SelfCare

Florida Department of Health Office of Communications 03-17-10