

Syphilis:

What you need to know



NL Health
Services

Facts about syphilis

The Labrador-Grenfell Zone (NL Health Services) is currently experiencing a syphilis outbreak.

Congenital syphilis rates are on the rise in Canada. This occurs when syphilis is passed from a pregnant person to their fetus during pregnancy, or to the baby during childbirth.

Testing is free and accessible and is available through your primary care provider or by calling 811.

Syphilis is completely curable with antibiotics. Early-stage syphilis can be treated with a one-time antibiotic injection. Later stages require additional treatments

Symptoms can include sores in the mouth, anal and genital areas, or more widespread symptoms. Some people will not experience any symptoms, but they can still spread syphilis.

If left untreated, syphilis can cause severe damage to organs, including the heart, and brain and can also be passed to the fetus for those that are pregnant.

More information about syphilis and congenital syphilis is available on NL Health Services' Health Information (Hi) website: hi.easternhealth.ca/syphilis

