# Syphilis is on the rise in SA

## Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection (STI).

It can be spread during any type of sexual activity with a person who has the infection.



### Why should I care?

Syphilis can cause serious health problems if left untreated. It can damage the brain, vision, heart, bones and more.

It can also be passed on to a baby during pregnancy. This can cause miscarriage, birth defects, early birth and infant death.

### How do I know if I have it?

Symptoms such as a sore or body rash can come and go but syphilis will still be causing harm to the body.

The only way to know is to get tested. A syphilis test is a blood test.



Anyone who has had sex without a condom. Anyone who is pregnant. Anyone who has been

diagnosed with another STI or their partner has been diagnosed with an STI.

#### What do I do if I have it?

Get treatment straight away. Your health worker can help you with the next steps.



www.shinesa.org.au