If you’ve been diagnosed with an STD, you may be able to get treatment for your partner, too.

If you’ve been diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea, the first step is to get treatment. But did you know that you may be able to get treatment for your partner, too?

Talk to your doctor. They may be able to give you medicine or a prescription for your partner — even without seeing them. This is called expedited partner therapy (EPT) or patient-delivered partner therapy (PDPT), and it’s available in most states.

With EPT:

- Your partner can get treated quickly — without having to go to the doctor first
- You’ll be protected from your partner passing the infection back to you
- Neither of you will pass the infection on in the future

Why does my partner need treatment?

Without treatment, your partner could pass the STD back to you. Keep in mind that many people with chlamydia and gonorrhea have no signs or symptoms, so your partner may have the STD and not know it. Left untreated, chlamydia and gonorrhea can cause serious health problems.

If you’ve been diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea, talk to your doctor to find out if EPT is an option for you and your partner.

To learn more about how you can prevent STDs, visit cdc.gov/std/prevention.