

## **Sexually Transmitted Diseases/Infections**

### **Bacterial Vaginosis (BV)**

Bacterial vaginosis (BV) is the most common vaginal infection in women of childbearing age. BV is associated with the replacement of normal vaginal flora by an overgrowth of anaerobic bacteria and numerous fastidious or uncultivated anaerobes. Symptoms, if present, may include vaginal discharge and odor. Women with BV are at increased risk for the acquisition of some STDs, complications after gynecologic surgery, complications of pregnancy, and recurrence of BV.

Although BV will sometimes clear up without treatment, all women who complain of symptoms of BV should be treated to avoid complications.

Although many cases are diagnosed and treated, BV is not reportable under the current N.C. Administrative Code.

For more information:

- CDC fact sheet: [About Bacterial Vaginosis \(BV\) | Bacterial Vaginosis \(BV\) | CDC](#)
- CDC STI Treatment Guidelines: [Bacterial Vaginosis - STI Treatment Guidelines](#)