

Congenital syphilis

If you have syphilis, it is important you take the antibiotics prescribed.

Without treatment, syphilis can pass onto your baby. This is called congenital syphilis and may cause:

- Miscarriage
- Premature birth
- Stillbirth and neonatal death
- Enlarged liver and spleen
- Deformities of the teeth and bones
- Blisters and skin rashes
- Developmental delay

Antibiotic treatment can prevent this.



Figure 1. Teeth deformities



Figure 2. Enlarged liver



Figure 3. Skin rash

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Figure 1. Healthline; Figure 2. Keuning, M et al. (2020). Congenital syphilis, the great imitator—case report and review. *Infectious diseases*, 20, 7: 173-179; Figure 3. Cooper, J & Sanchez, P. (2018). Congenital syphilis. *Seminars in Perinatology*, 42, 3: 176-184. Courtesy of Dr. Mario del Barco of the Hospital Materno Infantil, Salta, Argentina and Dr. Liliana Vázquez, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

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