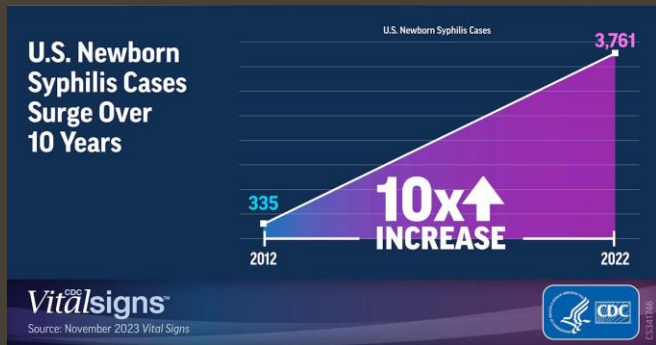


# Congenital syphilis

An infection in newborns passed to the baby from the mother during pregnancy or delivery.<sup>1</sup>



More than 3,700 babies were born with congenital syphilis in 2022, including 231 stillbirths and 51 infant deaths.<sup>2</sup>

## Prevention Strategies<sup>4</sup>

The rising amount of syphilis in pregnancy and congenital syphilis cases highlights the critical need for effective risk reduction measures.

1. Early education
2. Prompt diagnosis
3. Timely screening and treatment

## Risk Avoidance

Refraining from sexual contact is the only way to COMPLETELY prevent sexually transmitted infections and pregnancy.

## Partner Notification<sup>4</sup>

The successful diagnosis and treatment of the partner(s) of pregnant women with syphilis is crucial to reducing re-infection rates.

## Congenital syphilis can cause<sup>1</sup>

- Miscarriage
- Stillbirth
- Premature birth
- Low birth weight
- Newborn death

## Can it be treated, and how?<sup>3</sup>

Yes, congenital syphilis can be cured with antibiotics.

- Penicillin G is the only effective antibiotic for treating syphilis in pregnancy
- The recommended treatment for pregnant women is one to three shots of benzathine penicillin G, depending on the stage of infection.

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3. Sankaran D, Partridge E, Lakshminrusimha S. Congenital Syphilis—An Illustrative Review. *Children (Basel)*. 2023; 10:1310. doi:10.3390/children10081310

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