

**10.2 BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS (BV)**

TITLE	DESCRIPTION
DEFINITION:	Bacterial vaginosis (BV) results from replacement of the normal bacteria in the vagina with anaerobic bacteria.
SUBJECTIVE:	<p><b>Must Include:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sexual Health Assessment</li> </ol> <p><b>May Include:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No symptoms.</li> <li>2. Vaginal discharge.</li> <li>3. “Fishy” odor which is particularly noticeable following coitus.</li> <li>4. Introital dyspareunia or vulvar irritation.</li> </ol>
OBJECTIVE:	<p><b>May Include:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Homogenous, thin, white discharge that smoothly coats the vaginal walls.</li> <li>2. Malodorous discharge.</li> <li>3. Minimal redness/irritation of vulva and vaginal walls.</li> </ol>
LABORATORY:	<p>The vaginal specimen has at least three of the four of the following characteristics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vaginal pH &gt; 4.5.</li> <li>2. Positive Whiff Test (release of amines causes a fishy odor when potassium hydroxide 10% (KOH) is added to specimen).</li> <li>3. &gt;20% clue cells on microscopic evaluation.</li> <li>4. Characteristic vaginal discharge</li> <li>5. Lactobacilli are usually absent.</li> </ol>
ASSESSMENT	Bacterial Vaginosis (BV).
PLAN:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Treat according to regimens recommended by current CDC STI treatment guidelines.</li> <li>2. Screen for STIs and HIV, as indicated.</li> </ol>
EDUCATION:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide education handout, review symptoms, treatment options, and medication side effects.</li> <li>2. Advise client of pertinent information regarding metronidazole, which should not be taken with alcohol because drug might cause severe nausea and vomiting. Alcohol should be avoided 24 hours before, during, and for 24 hours after treatment with metronidazole and for 72 hours after taking tinidazole. Clindamycin can cause pseudomembranous colitis resulting in severe diarrhea. If symptoms occur, client should stop medication and seek immediate medical care.</li> <li>3. Advise to avoid intercourse during treatment OR use condoms consistently.</li> <li>4. Douching may increase the risk for BV.</li> <li>5. Avoid using contraceptive diaphragm and/or condoms during and at least 72 hours after treatment with clindamycin cream or ovules as it may weaken latex or rubber products.</li> <li>6. Stress importance not to interrupt treatment during menses and not to use tampons during treatment.</li> <li>7. Review safer sex education, as appropriate.</li> </ol>

	8. Recommend that client RTC if symptoms persist for re-evaluation.
REFERRAL TO MEDICAL PROVIDER	As indicated.
REFERENCES:	1. <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/tg-2015-print.pdf">Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines, 2015. MMWR Recomm Rep 2015;64 (No.RR-3): Pp. 69-72. (https://www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/tg-2015-print.pdf). (Retrieved 2/8/17).</a>