

BV PEARLS

HOW BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS (BV) EVADES ANTIBIOTICS¹

BV is the most frequent cause of abnormal vaginal discharge with high recurrence rates following treatment.¹ Symptoms of BV include a thin, greyish-white vaginal discharge and a distinctly fishy vaginal odour.² Pregnant women are also susceptible to BV and may suffer severe complications, such as preterm birth.³

HOW COMMON IS BV?



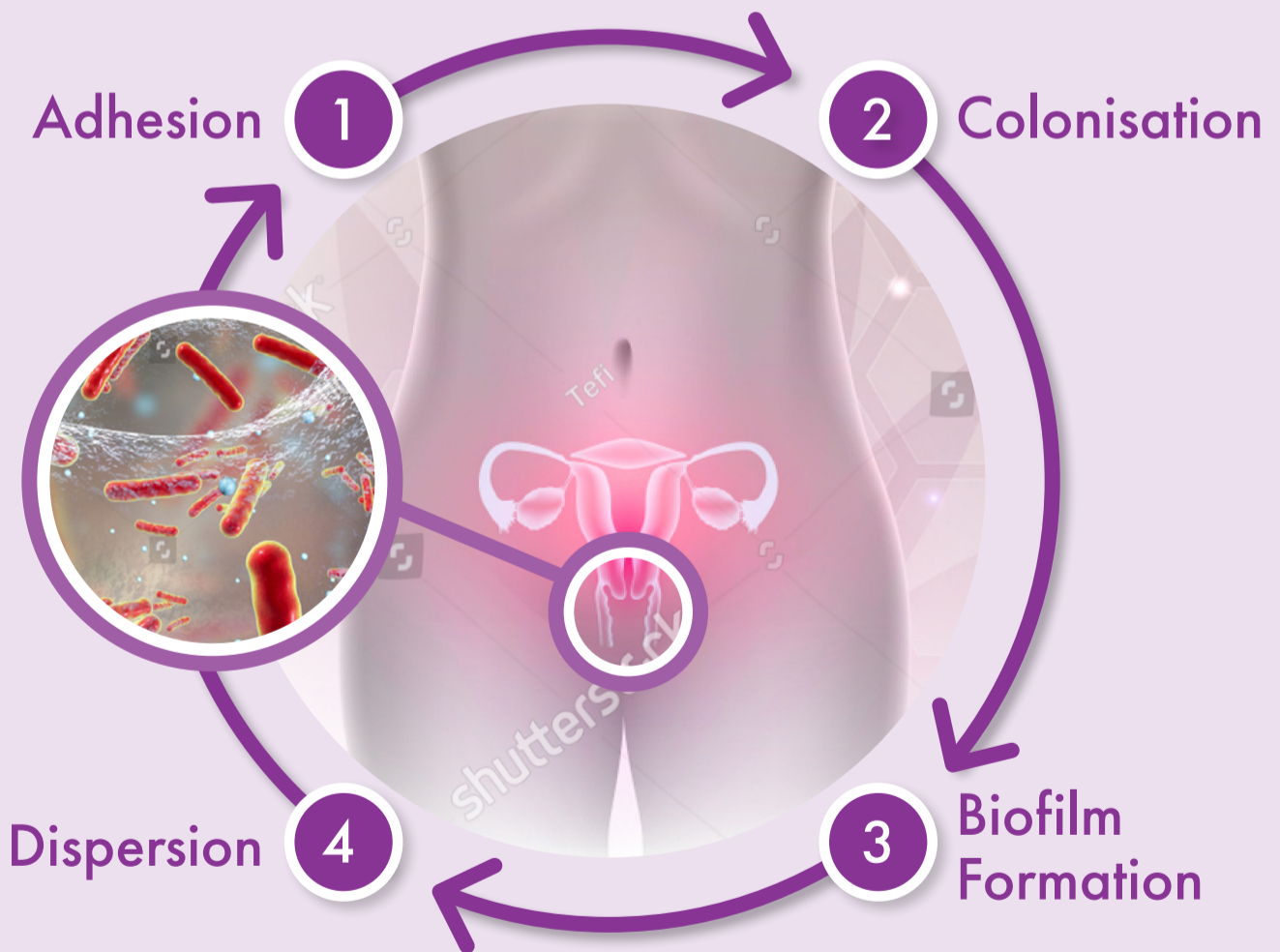
1 in 3
WOMEN EXPERIENCE BV³
50% of those affected will experience recurrence²



1 in 4
PREGNANT WOMEN SUFFER FROM BV³

BV is characterised by a shift in the vaginal microflora from lactobacilli to facultative and strict anaerobic bacteria.¹ A key factor in BV recurrence is the formation of multispecies biofilm on vaginal epithelial cells containing abundant *Gardnerella vaginalis* and other bacteria.¹ The biofilm becomes inactive upon treatment and leads to decreased susceptibility to antibiotics.¹ This may contribute to the high BV recurrence rates (>50%) after treatment.¹

BV BIOFILMS FOLLOW A CONTINUOUS 4-STEP CYCLE LEADING TO HIGH RATES OF RECURRENCE⁴



Coming
Soon

A non-antibiotic biofilm-disrupting vaginal gel that treats BV, prevents recurrence and restores normal vaginal flora balance^{5,6}

REFERENCES: 1. Munzy CA, et al. *Sex Transm Dis* 2020;47(7):441-446. 2. StatPearls. Bacterial Vaginosis. Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK459216/>. Accessed 20 November 2020. 3. Koumans EH, et al. *Sex Transm Dis* 2007;34(11):864-869. 4. Hardy L, et al. *Res Microbiol* 2017;168:865-874. 5. Betadine BV gel IFU, April 2020. 6. Data on file. Clinical Evaluation Report, July 2018, Starpharma Pty Ltd.