

BV PEARLS

WHY BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS (BV) SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED

While BV is often considered a common and minor vaginal infection, the underlying changes in the vaginal microflora is associated with numerous health problems.^{1,2} In addition, the recurrent nature of BV following treatment causes great distress to women and substantially impacts their quality of life.¹

COMPLICATIONS OF BV

BV increases the risk of acquiring other sexually transmitted infections, such as gonorrhoea, trichomoniasis and HIV:²



60%

Increased risk of acquiring HIV³



3-4x

More likely to test positive for Chlamydia & Gonorrhoea⁵



2.3x

Increased risk of HSV-2 shedding⁴



9x

Increased risk of acquiring Trichomoniasis⁶

One in four pregnant women have BV, which can result in several complications during pregnancy and post-partum:²



- Pre-term labour²
- Miscarriage²



- Pre-term delivery²



- Endometritis²
- Wound infections²

IMPACT ON QUALITY OF LIFE

66%

of the women stated that BV had a moderate-to-severe impact on quality of life*¹

Most women report that BV has a moderate-to-severe impact on their self-esteem and sex life.¹

The most distressing symptom is the malodour, followed by the abnormal, often profuse discharge.¹ This leaves women feeling embarrassed, ashamed, dirty and very concerned that others may detect the smell and discharge.¹ They regularly avoid sexual activity as they are too self-conscious of their symptoms.¹ Women often feel confused and frustrated about experiencing recurrent BV infections.¹

*A quality of life study in 35 BV patients with recurrent episodes to assess overall impact of BV¹

Coming
Soon

A non-antibiotic biofilm-disrupting vaginal gel that treats BV, prevents recurrence and restores normal vaginal flora balance^{7,8}

REFERENCES: 1. Bilardi JE, et al. *PLoS ONE* 2013;8(9):e74378. 2. Koumans EH, et al. *Sex Transm Dis* 2007;34(11):864-869. 3. Atashili J, et al. *AIDS* 2008;22(12):1493-1501. 4. Turovskiy Y, et al. *J Appl Microbiol* 2011;110(5):1105-1128. 5. Wiesenfeld HC, et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2003;36:663-668. 6. Rathod SD, et al. *Sex Transm Dis* 2011;38(9):882-886. 7. Betadine BV gel IFU, April 2020. 8. Data on file. Clinical Evaluation Report, July 2018, Starpharma Pty Ltd.