



Cycling

THE PROB Women who ride are likelier to report UTIs, per a recent study. Sitting in one position for hours in nonbreathing spandex gives bacteria a home to lounge in, says Thomas Gaither, MD, a researcher at the University of California at San Francisco.

THE FIX Don't push through bathroom urges—pull over and take a break to go. "Peeing flushes out bacteria in your urethra, preventing infections."

Swimming

THE PROB Hanging out in a damp suit post-dip could lead to more yeast and urinary tract infections, says NYC gyno Alyssa Dweck, MD. "Bacteria and yeast thrive in moist, dark places like a wet bikini."

THE FIX Bring extra bottoms to the pool or beach and change into them as soon as you can. Prone to yeast infections (you get a few a year)? A daily probiotic can keep your pH on point.

Serious Sweating

THE PROB Running and outdoor workouts get sweatier in the heat, which means your clothes can stick to your vulva and create irritation. Plus, dripping sweat can also move bacteria from your rear to your vagina. Eek.

THE FIX Apply a thin layer of coconut oil on areas that chafe, says Dr. Dweck. It helps fabric glide over skin, and the oil creates a barrier to sweat, reducing the drip factor.