

History

Further information on www.antibioticprescribing.ie

- Time since last sexual contact (LSC)
- Time since previous sexual contact (PSC) if within last 3 months?
- Ask “when is the last time you had sex with someone else?”
- Ask “have you ever had a male partner?”
- Number of sexual partners in last 3 months
- Gender of partner(s)
- The type of sexual contact/sites of exposure
- Condom use/barrier use
- Any risk factors for blood-borne viruses in the partner
- Diagnosis of previous STIs and the approximate date
- Have they ever paid for or been paid for sex?
- Past medical and surgical history
- Vaccination history; HPV, Hepatitis B
- Medication history and history of allergies
- Alcohol and recreational drug history (including current or previous IV drug use)
- Smoking history
- Identification of unmet need with regards to difficulties with sexual performance and satisfaction

Possible STI symptoms include:

- Penile discharge
- Dysuria or perineal pain
- Testicular pain or swelling
- Genital rashes or ulcers

Systemic symptoms:

- Arthralgia, rash, fever

NAAT (Nucleic Acid Amplification Test/PCR) is the gold standard for chlamydia and gonorrhoea testing. The type of test may vary for different laboratories.

One example is Aptima[®] Genprobe Swab (Unisex or Multitest) in liquid medium offering >96% sensitivity, >99% specificity.



Testing process / counselling points:

- Advise re 'window period' if appropriate. Do not delay taking samples. Samples should be taken opportunistically and then patient to return for repeat tests as required, depending on window period.
- Asymptomatic patients do not need a genital examination.

Recommended tests and sampling for asymptomatic screen:

- First void urine: NAAT/PCR for Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea.
- Blood samples (usually 1 plain tube) for HIV 1&2, Syphilis & Hepatitis B, +/- Hepatitis C in line with national [HCV guidelines](#).

Delivery plan for results

- Essential to outline expected time for results & mode of delivery. Suggest text ‘Lab results available’ to patient.
- Follow up telephone consult with Doctor/Nurse required
- Advise condoms while awaiting results
- Discuss concept of partner notification
- Signpost to useful resources e.g. [HSE Sexual wellbeing](#), [HSE free home STI testing service](#)