

History

Further information on www.antibioticprescribing.ie

- Time since last sexual contact (LSC)
- Time since previous sexual contact (PSC) if within the last 3 months)
- Number of sexual partners in the last 3 months
- The gender of partner(s) (current and previous)
- The type of sex/ sites of exposure:
 - Oral: insertive, receptive or both
 - Anal: receptive, insertive or both
 - Vaginal
- Condom use/barrier use- always/sometimes/never
- Last unprotected anal sex/number of unprotected anal sex contacts in last 3 months*
- The diagnosis of previous STIs and the approximate date*; Previous STI screening? Syphilis (if yes for syphilis, then when and where treated and with what)
- Have they ever paid for or been paid for sex?
- Past medical and surgical history
- Immunisation status: HPV vaccine history; Hep A and B; Mpox
- HIV status
- Medication history and history of allergies
- Alcohol and recreational drug history (including current or previous IV drug use)
- Chemsex*
- Smoking history
- PEP* or PrEP use- aware of PrEP, ever taken PrEP, interested in PrEP?
- Mental health issues
- Identification of unmet need with regards to difficulties with sexual performance and satisfaction

*For PrEP eligibility criteria - see [HSE Guidance](#)

Possible STI symptoms include:

- Penile or anal discharge
- Dysuria or perineal pain
- Testicular pain or swelling
- Genital rashes or ulcers
- Neurological / ophthalmological symptoms (consider syphilis)

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.
- Discuss HIV prevention: PrEP, U=U, PEP, condoms. Discuss vaccination: Hep A, Hep B, HPV, Mpox as required.

Recommended tests and sampling for asymptomatic screen:

- Swabs: NAAT/PCR self-taken rectal and pharyngeal swab for Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea.
- First void urine NAAT/PCR – Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea.
- 1 serum sample: serology syphilis, HIV, Hepatitis A IgG (if not immune or vaccinated), Hepatitis B sAg (if not immune) and Hepatitis C in line with national [HCV guidelines](#).
- If considering PrEP then renal function required.

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. Websites such as [HSE Sexual wellbeing](#), [M2M](#), [PrEP](#) and [HSE free home STI testing](#)