



Greater Manchester Chlamydia Screening Programme

Greater Manchester 
Primary Care Trusts

www.RUclear.co.uk

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1. Introduction

- Genital Chlamydia trachomatis is the commonest sexually transmitted infection in the UK. Chlamydia is associated with high levels of long term morbidity.
- Approximately 1 in 10 sexually active young people under the age of 25 has Chlamydia.
- By offering opportunistic screening to asymptomatic young people in a wide variety of settings we aim to reduce prevalence within the population and reduce the long term morbidity.
- The National Screening programme target is to screen 50% of the sexually active population aged 15-24, annually.
- In 2010/11 PCTs have a target to screen 35% of the total 15-24 year old population.

2. Background to RU Clear Chlamydia & Gonorrhoea

The Department of Health began the roll out of the National Chlamydia Screening Programme in 2002, with an expectation that all areas across England have a Chlamydia (NHS) screening programme up and running by March 2007. Greater Manchester is a phase III site and roll out of a screening programme commenced in October 2006.

The RU Clear Programme is provided by a network of young peoples' services working together, with co-ordination provided by the RU Clear team.

The testing platform used across Greater Manchester is the Gen-probe Aptima 2 combo assay which tests for both Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea. For this reason all young people screened for Chlamydia will also be tested for Gonorrhoea.

3. RU Clear

RU Clear is funded by the Greater Manchester PCTs and provides co-ordination of the programme, training, testing kits & materials, lab costs, publicity, information leaflets & posters, support & advice and management of a results service.

Results Service

The RU Clear Office will notify all young people of their test results and arrange treatment when necessary at a site, date and time to suit them. Where the site holds clinical notes, the test initiator will get a copy of the test result for their information. Notification of successful treatment will also be made. RU Clear will carry out partner notification and also manage anyone who fails to attend for treatment.

4. Young Person Selection

4.1 Inclusion Criteria

- Young men and women from their 13th birthday to their 25th birthday. (Under 16s must be competent to consent to the Screening Test)
- All sexual partners of those found to be Chlamydia positive irrespective of age.
- Young people with signs and symptoms of Chlamydia should be screened as part of the screening programme and fast tracked to a GUM clinic or managed in-house by a venue with STI management skills.

4.2 Exclusion Criteria

- Young men and women who have had a positive Chlamydia test in the last 8 weeks.
- Children under 13 - local policies for safeguarding should be followed in these instances. (The Chlamydia screening office can help you to identify the designated Nurse for safeguarding children in your area)
- Young women and men aged over 25 who are not partners of a Chlamydia positive index young person. (Diagnostic testing documentation should be completed in these instances).

4.3 Frequency of Screening

- All eligible young people in contact with the screening site for the first time should be offered a test.
- Repeat tests should be advised and offered every time the young person has put themselves at risk of Chlamydia and at each change of sexual partner.
- Young people should be advised to be tested annually.
- A minimum of 8 weeks after completion of treatment is recommended between tests for people that have had a Chlamydia positive result.

5. Offering a Test

On arrival at the testing site the young person should be offered information about Chlamydia screening and the Gonorrhoea insert to read whilst they are waiting for their consultation with the health professional.

Once the young person meets with the health care professional/staff member and the original reason for attendance has been discussed, Chlamydia screening with the Gonorrhoea test can be offered during the consultation.

See appendix 4- 'Management pathway for young people attending the Chlamydia tests.'

5.1 Consent

Written consent is not required, as completing the request form and producing a specimen implies consent.

B. Yellow parts of form

Yellow parts of form - to be completed by the young person. Staff to explain how to mark the form for the scanner to read. Staff may complete the form on behalf of the young person.

**PLEASE TRY AND GET A POSTCODE FROM THE YOUNG PERSON
(FOR DATA COLLECTION PURPOSES ONLY).**

C. Staff to check:

- Is preferred method of correspondence ticked?
- Is there at least one method of contact listed?
- Explain that if the result is positive the RU Clear Office will telephone in the first instance (not text).

D. The young person is to be given the test information card with RU Clear Office number on **and reference number** (CRN) sticker attached to the card.

Gonorrhoea tests

In Greater Manchester all **Chlamydia** screening samples are tested for **Gonorrhoea** as well.

If your test is positive for **Gonorrhoea** you will be asked to attend a sexual health clinic for treatment and further tests.

Protect yourself

The best way to protect against sexually transmitted infections is by using a condom.

For more information visit our website www.ruclear.co.uk




Getting your results

You will receive your **Chlamydia** and **Gonorrhoea** results from the **RU Clear office**.

If you have not received your result within **2 weeks** then telephone **0800 0461 303** between **9.00am** and **4.30pm** and speak to a member of staff, please quote the number on the sticker.

You are welcome to attend for another screening test in the future if you feel you have put yourself at risk and at every change of partner.



Place sticker here


If the Chlamydia test is positive

If the test is positive, treatment with antibiotics is given. Sexual partner(s) should also be treated so that the infection is not passed back.

Treatment is arranged through the **RU Clear office** on **0800 0461 303**

If you have an infection and we haven't been able to contact you by your chosen method - we will do all we can to try and contact you, this may include contacting your GP.

No test is 100% accurate so rarely the test may give a false result. If you are concerned about this issue you can discuss this further with staff at the RU Clear office.



E. Sample Labelling

- Complete DOB on sticker
- Ensure sticker is a fixed to the specimen container (lengthways).
- **Specimens without labels will not be processed**

7. Samples & Testing

All samples will be tested at the Manchester public health laboratory or NE sector local lab.

7.1 Urine Sample

The urine specimen that is required is a first catch urine specimen, which should be collected after the client has not passed urine for 1 hour. (See appendix 5 for instruction leaflet)

- Remove cap of collection tube
- Transfer urine from collection pot using the disposable pipette provided
- Fill to the window on the side of the collection tube
- Replace cap and tighten
- Do not perforate foil cover on the cap
- Ensure the pre printed label is attached to the collection tube horizontally so CRN and DOB are visible.
The date of birth MUST be completed by you!

Place the sample into the plastic bag on the back of the request form and seal.

If a client brings in a urine sample for pipetting, this should be recent and not older than 24 hours.

7.2 Self taken Vulvo-vaginal swab (See appendix 6 for instruction leaflet)

Once comfortable, point the end of the swab at your vagina opening and gently insert it into the vagina, as if inserting a tampon. Twirl the swab for approximately 5 seconds, ensuring it is touching the inside of the vagina. Then remove the swab slowly.

- Remove cap of collection tube
- Place swab in collection tube
- Break off swab at the mark
- Replace cap and tighten - the shaft of the swab must not obstruct the cap
- Do not perforate foil cover on cap



7.3 Sample storage

Once samples are within the medium, they can be stored **without** refrigeration. Urines are stable for 30 days and vulvo-vaginal stable for 60 days.

7.4 Transport

All specimens should be placed on existing transport into local laboratories, who will forward it to MRI/Oldham Pathology. Those sites with no means of collection should contact the R U Clear office to discuss alternative options.

8. Young People with Symptoms:

Complete current symptoms on form.

See appendix 3 - Management pathway for people under 25 describing symptoms.

Young people with symptoms should be screened using the symptoms self -assessment sheet attached.

Where the Testing site does not have STI management skills advise to attend GUM.

8.1 Patients with the following symptoms should be advised to attend a GUM clinic

- Abdominal pain
- Sores around the genitals
- Inflamed or swollen testicles
- Bleeding between periods or after sex
- Painful when having sex

All GUM clinics offer 48 hour access. To contact a local clinic see page 10.

9. What Happens Next

9.1 Results

The RU Clear Office will notify the young person of their test results.

If a young person has not received a result after 2 weeks, they can phone the RU Clear office to get their result.

Negative Results

Negative results will be notified within 2 working days of the Lab returning the test result to the RU Clear office. Only one attempt is made to contact negative patients by phone.

Positive Results

If the test is positive the RU Clear office will arrange a treatment appointment. The young person will be notified by letter or phone call within 1 working day of the laboratory returning the result to RU Clear.

9.2 The Text Messages

Negative results will receive the text message:

“Your Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea tests were negative - no infection was seen. Please contact us if you have any questions on 0800 046 1303.”

Positive results will receive text messages from the second contact.

9.3 Treatment

First line treatment for Chlamydia is Azithromycin IG given as a concentrated dose of 4 tablets. Antibiotics are free and patients are expected to take the tablets when they attend their appointment.

Partner notification (B FORMS) are supplied to all treatment sites and should be completed and faxed back to RU Clear wherever possible. All Gonorrhoea patients are referred to GUM and tier 2 treatment sites for management.

9.4 Information for the screener (clinical sites only)

- If you are a clinical site with patient records you will get a copy of the results for your information only, unless otherwise indicated.
- You will get a letter telling you that someone has been successfully treated for your information only.
- If we do not manage to confirm treatment in a young person with Chlamydia we will write to you, so you can flag this in their notes. If they should re-attend your service, please contact the RU Clear office to arrange treatment or let us know if they have been treated.
- Under 16 - The R U Clear office will contact all necessary agencies including General Practitioners when a young person under 18 remains untreated.

10. Partner Notification

When the results team arrange treatment appointments current partners will always be encouraged to attend for treatment with the index. Partner notification is to be discussed with any young person attending for treatment. The treatment provider will take details of partners (B FORM) and fax this information on to the RU Clear office who will take any action necessary. The young person can choose to inform partners themselves, for the RU Clear Office to inform their partners (provider referral) or a mixture of the two. Where a young person is unwilling to give partner details, no action will be taken by the RU Clear Office.

11. Incidents & Near Misses

Any incidents relating to testing and treatment of Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea as part of the programme should be identified to the RU Clear office using an incident form, so that appropriate action can be taken. The incident form is at appendix 2.

12. Postal Options

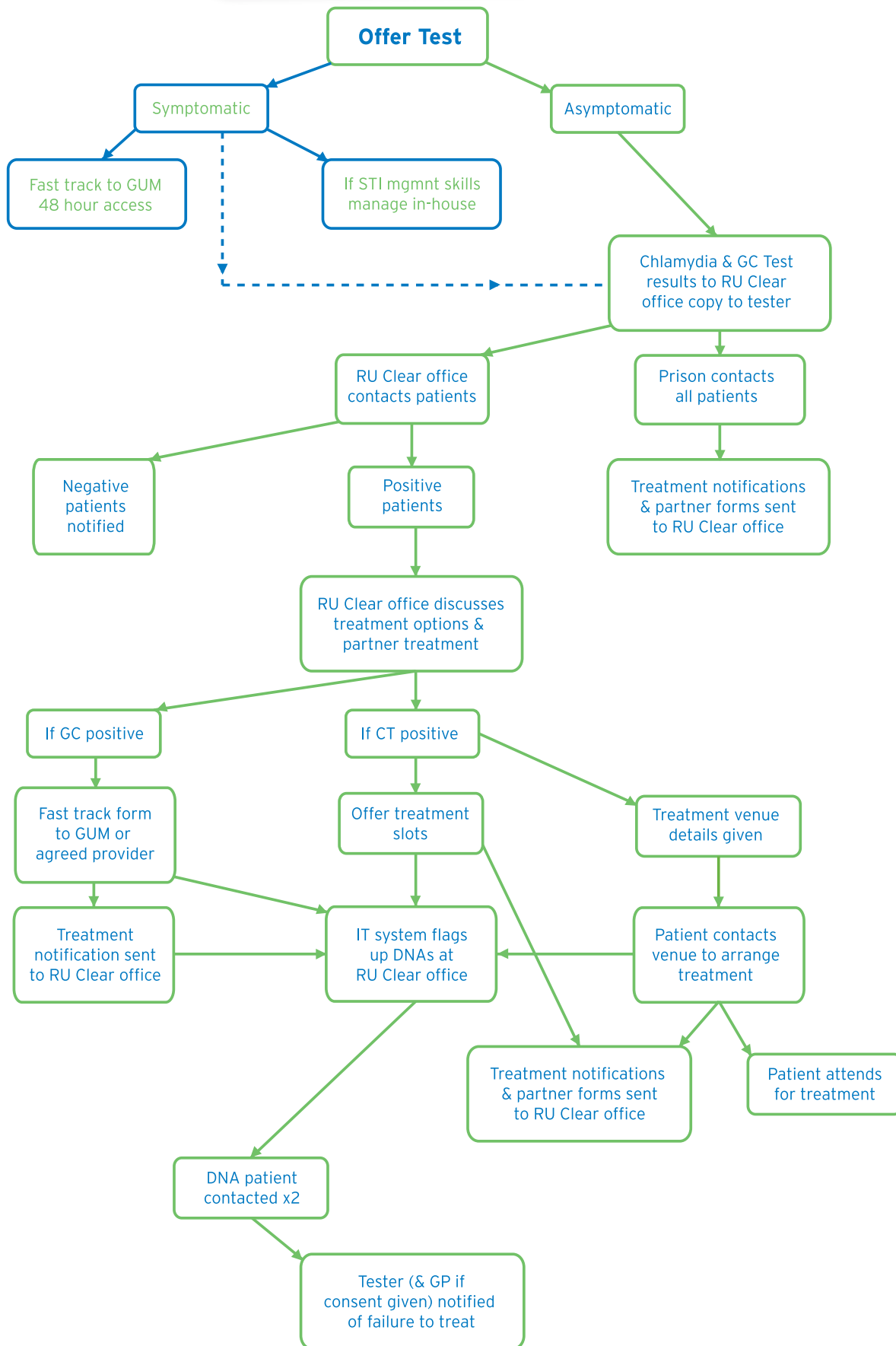
Sites that do not have a regular collection of specimens, need to contact the R U Clear office to discuss possible alternative.

13. Further Information

For more request forms/advice and information call [0800 046 1303](tel:08000461303).

RU Clear website www.RUClear.co.uk

Testing & Treatment Pathway for Greater Manchester Chlamydia Screening Programme



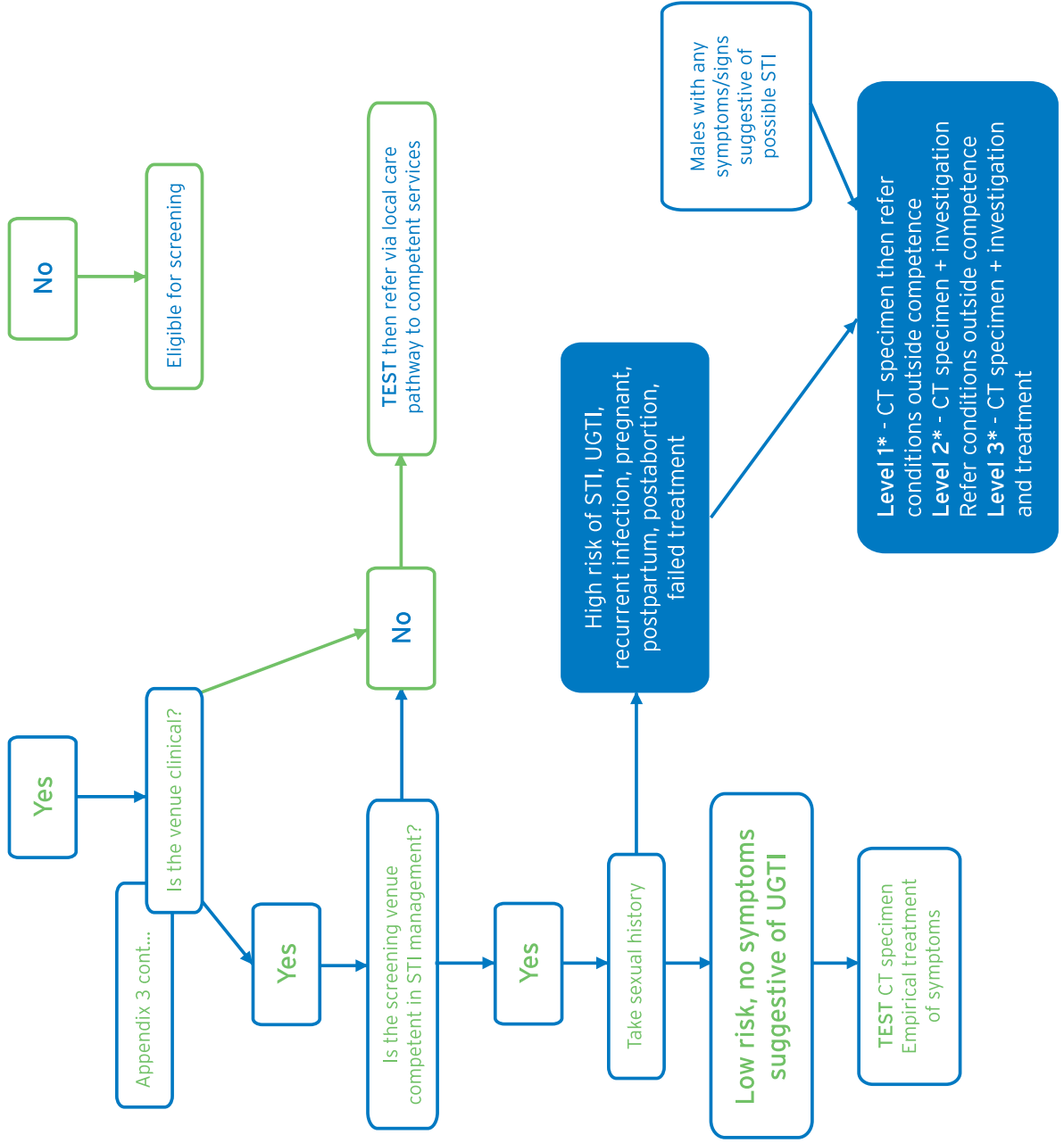
List of GUM / Sexual Health Clinics: August 2010

<p>Bolton Department of Genitourinary Medicine Bolton Centre of Sexual Health Minerva Road Farnworth Bolton BL4 0JR Contact: Carol Garside Clinic: 01204 390 942 Clinic - Appointments: 01204 390 771 Fax: 01204 390 775 Coordinator: Tonie Russell</p>	<p>Manchester Centre for Sexual Health Department of Genitourinary Medicine Manchester Royal Infirmary Oxford Road Manchester M13 9WL Contact: Cheryl Stott Clinic: 0161 276 5211 Clinic - Appointments: 0161 276 5212 Fax: 0161 276 8875 Coordinator: David Freeman Powell</p>
<p>Manchester North Department of Genitourinary Medicine North Manchester General Hospital Delaunays Road Manchester M8 5RB Central Booking Line: 0161 627 8753 Telephone Advice Line: 0161 720 2712 Fax: 0161 720 2148 Coordinator: Helen Tinker</p>	<p>Manchester South Centre for Sexual Health Withington Community Hospital Nell Lane Manchester M20 2LR Appointments Line: 0161 217 4939 Fax: 0161 217 4604 Coordinator: David Freeman Powell</p>
<p>Oldham Genitourinary Medicine & Family Planning Phoenix Sexual Health Centre Royal Oldham Hospital Rochdale Road Oldham OL1 2JH Central Booking Line: 0161 627 8753 Fax: 0161 778 5193 Coordinator: Helen Tinker</p>	<p>Bury - The Barlow Suite Fairfield Hospital Rochdale Old Road Bury BL9 7TD Central Booking Line: 0161 627 8753 Fax: 0161 778 2801 Coordinator: Helen Tinker</p>
<p>Rochdale Department of Genitourinary Medicine & Family Planning Bridge Sexual Health 2nd Floor Stonehill Block Rochdale Infirmary Whitehall Street Rochdale OL12 0NB Central Booking Line: 0161 627 8753 Fax: 01706 517 652 Coordinator: Helen Tinker</p>	<p>Salford Department of Genitourinary Medicine The Goodman Centre Oaklands Hospital 19 Lancaster Road Salford M6 8AQ Contact: Margaret Byrne Telephone: 0161 212 5720 / 5719 Fax: 0161 212 5721 Coordinator: Tonie Russell</p>
<p>Stockport Department of Genitourinary Medicine Outpatients B Stepping Hill Hospital Poplar Grove Stockport SK2 7JE Clinic: 0161 419 5151 Clinic - Appointments: 0161 419 5370 / 5371 Fax: 0161 419 5153 Coordinator: David Freeman Powell</p>	<p>Ashton Primary Care Centre 193 Old Street Ashton-Under-Lynde OL6 7SR Telephone: 0161 342 7000 Coordinator: David Freeman Powell</p>
<p>Trafford Department of Genitourinary Medicine Trafford General Hospital Moorside Road Manchester M41 5SL Contact: Anne Mather Clinic: 0161 746 2621 Clinic Appointments: 0161 746 2621 Fax: 0161 746 2966 Coordinator: David Freeman Powell</p>	<p>Wigan Department of Genitourinary Medicine The Shine Centre 6 Wigan Galleries WN1 1AR Contact: Laraine Murray Clinic: 01942 483 188 Advice Line: 01942 822 006 Fax: 01942 483 197 Coordinator: Tonie Russell</p>

Management Pathway for People Aged Under 25 Attending for Chlamydia Test Describing Symptoms/signs*

Females - Are the described symptoms/signs listed below?

Symptoms & signs* suggestive of possible STI: itch, dysuria, non-physiological vaginal discharge, superficial dyspareunia and development of ulcers or abnormal lumps in the genital area or upper genital tract infection (UGTI) - deep dyspareunia, fever, abnormal bleeding, dysuria, abdominal pain



Shaded areas are diagnostic tests outside NCSP

Important

- Clinical venues include pharmacies
 - Ensure patient knows how she will get her result and where to attend for treatment, & if appropriate, further investigation and management
 - Ensure index case knows how & who will do partner notification & management
 - Ensure partner notification & management is arranged for ALL positives
 - STI means common STIs in UK practice - gonorrhoea, trichomoniasis, HIV, syphilis, genital warts, herpes & chlamydia
 - *Level 1, 2 & 3 refer to competencies as described by Sexual Health Strategy for HIV and other STIs including asymptomatic chlamydia
 - Competence in identifying and capacity to manage symptomatic and complicated chlamydia and gonorrhoea, including pelvic infection, would require a venue to investigate, diagnose and treat women with symptoms suggestive of upper reproductive tract disease
- If there is not this capacity, women should be referred to one which has
- Women with a history that falls within the “high risk” box will need specialised management
 - Screened patients should be aware of the option for referral for full STI testing including HIV and syphilis screening

Appendix 4: Example of specimen kit order form:-

CLINICAL VIROLOGY LABORATORY, MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY

FAX NO: 0161 276 5744

APTIMA COLLECTION KITS FOR CHLAMYDIA AND GONORRHOEA

SITE CODE(S) AND
MAIN SITE NAME
(Delivery Address)

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PLEASE ENTER ALL OTHER SITE CODES YOU ARE ORDERING FOR

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<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>CODE</u>	<u>COLOUR</u>	<u>Number of Tests/Urine kits required</u> (now ordered individually not in boxes of 50)
UNISEX SWAB	1041	PURPLE	<input type="text"/>
VAGINAL SWAB	1162	ORANGE	<input type="text"/>
URINE	1040	YELLOW	<input type="text"/>
URINE POTS			<input type="text"/>

**PLEASE NOTE: SITES WILL BE CHARGED EXTRA FOR OVER-REQUESTING OF STOCK
SIGNIFICANTLY IN EXCESS OF PATIENT DEMAND**

Notes:

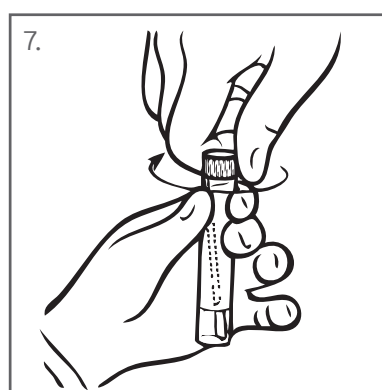
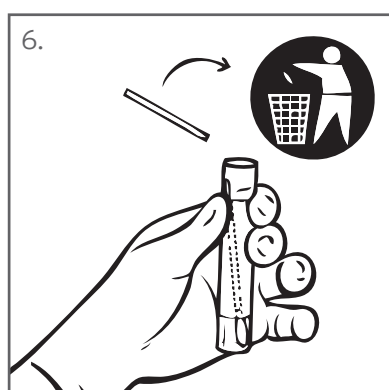
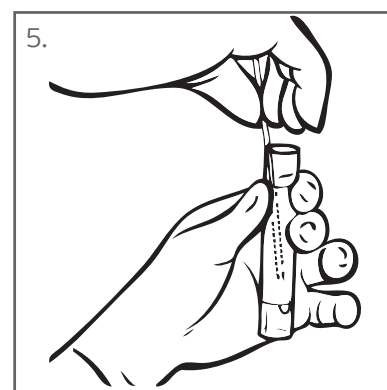
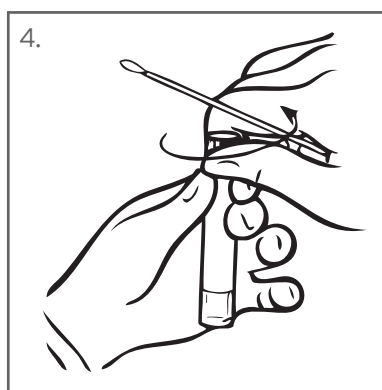
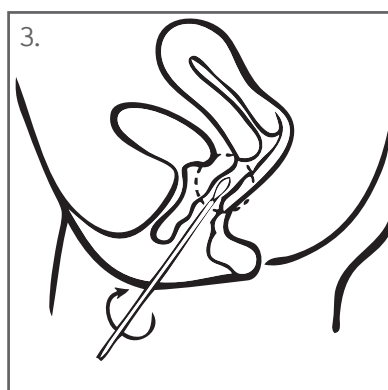
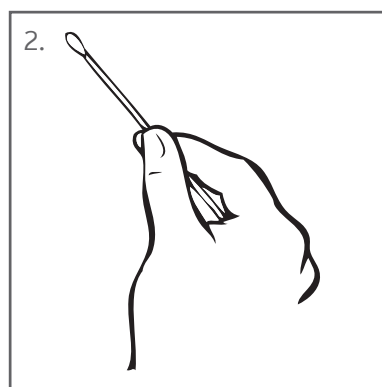


Protocol For Pipetting Of Urine

The Chlamydia test is extremely sensitive, following this step by step protocol will reduce the risk of cross contamination between samples.

- Wash your hands
- Prepare the area. Place a paper towel onto a clean work surface (as for pregnancy testing)
- Put on a pair of gloves
- Take the container containing the urine sample and place both down onto the prepared surface
- Take out the specimen tube from its pack (yellow tube). Unscrew lid and either hold tube or place down onto the prepared surface
- Take the plastic pipette from the pack
- Insert it into the urine sample and gently 'squeeze' to draw up 2mls of urine. The pipette has the required amount marked at the neck.
- Squeeze the pipetted urine into the yellow specimen tube. The urine should be visible in the central window (marked - fill area)
- Dispose of the used pipette directly into the waste bin.
DO NOT replace onto the prepared surface
- Screw the lid back on the specimen tube and place to one side.
- Dispose of urine in container in waste bin along with; any packaging, paper towel and gloves
- Wipe work surface with warm soapy water or disinfectant and dry. Repeat between clients
- Wash your hands
- **Make sure specimen tube is labelled correctly**

Taking a Self-collected Vaginal Swab Specimen



1. Partially peel open the swab package as shown. Do not touch the soft tip or lay the swab down. If the soft tip is touched, the swab is laid down, or the swab is dropped, request a new kit.
2. Remove the swab. Hold the swab in your hand as shown, placing your thumb and forefinger in the middle of the swab shaft.
3. Insert the swab into your vagina about two inches inside the opening and gently rotate the swab for 10 to 30 seconds. Make sure the swab touches the vagina walls so moisture is absorbed by the swab. Withdraw the swab without touching the skin.
4. While holding the swab in the same hand, unscrew the cap from the tube. Do not spill the contents of the tube. If the contents of the tube are spilled, request a new collection kit.
5. Immediately place the swab into the transport tube so that the tip is visible below the tube label.
6. Carefully break the swab shaft against the side of the tube.
7. Tightly screw the cap onto the tube. Return the tube as instructed by the doctor or nurse.

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CHLAMYDIA & GONORRHOEA