

GETTING SCREENED IS EASY

Providing a sample for screening is easy and painless. Your healthcare provider may collect a sample using a vaginal swab or by collecting a urine sample.

If you test positive, you are not alone. Millions of people test positive for STIs each year. Fortunately, chlamydia and gonorrhea infections can be treated with antibiotics. It is very important to finish all of the antibiotics that are prescribed to you. Your partner(s) should also be screened and treated.

If you test negative, good news!



PROTECT YOURSELF: GET SCREENED. GET TREATED.

You can take the first step in protecting your health by starting a conversation with your healthcare provider today.

An untreated STI can have serious consequences to your long-term health. You can **take control of your sexual health** and protect yourself from unnecessary complications in the future. Your healthcare provider can answer your questions without judgment.

www.ashasexualhealth.org
www.yesmeanstest.org

CHLAMYDIA & GONORRHEA SCREENING

What women need
to know

YES MEANS
TEST

CHLAMYDIA AND GONORRHEA: MORE COMMON AND MORE CURABLE THAN YOU THINK.

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are far more common than you may think. Two of the most common STIs, chlamydia and gonorrhea, are bacterial infections that can be spread through sexual contact.

There are about **3.6 million of chlamydia and gonorrhea cases diagnosed in the U.S. each year.** About half of gonorrhea infections and 65% of chlamydia infections occur in young people, aged 15-24.

There often are **no signs or symptoms** with chlamydia or gonorrhea, especially in women. That's why it's important to talk to your healthcare provider about which tests are right for you.

If you have had sex, you may need to be tested, even if you feel healthy.

CONSEQUENCES OF UNTREATED INFECTION

It's typically easy to treat chlamydia and gonorrhea; however, an untreated infection can cause health consequences. They include:

- Irreversible damage to your reproductive organs, including pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). This can lead to **infertility** (inability to have children) and **ectopic pregnancy** (a dangerous pregnancy occurring outside the womb).
- **Premature childbirth for pregnant women**, which can cause serious health complications for mothers and their babies. **Both infections can also spread to newborns** during birth, and cause eye or lung infections.

WHILE YOU MAY NOT WANT BABIES TODAY, STIs CAN AFFECT YOUR ABILITY TO HAVE THEM IN THE FUTURE

SHOULD I BE TESTED FOR CHLAMYDIA AND GONORRHEA?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the following:

	Chlamydia	Gonorrhea
Sexually active women younger than 25 (annual screening)	✓	✓
Women age 25 and older at increased risk ^a	✓	✓
Pregnant women during their first trimester as well as women in their third trimester who are younger than 25, found to be infected in the first trimester or older women at increased risk ^{a,b,c}	✓	✓
Women and men who tested positive should be retested at 3 months	✓	✓

^a People with increased risk are women who have new or multiple partners, have a history of STDs, exchange sex for payment and use injection drugs, those with a new sex partner, more than one sex partner, a sex partner with concurrent partners, or a sex partner who has a sexually transmitted infection.

^b The CDC recommends all pregnant women found to have chlamydial infection should have a test-of-cure (preferably by NAAT) 3 to 4 weeks after treatment and retested at 3 months.

^c The CDC recommends all pregnant women found to have gonococcal infection should be treated immediately and retested within 3 months.