

Me and My GP

Dear Doctor,

This patient would like to be screened for STIs. Below are the tests that have been recommended for them, as they are asymptomatic and a man that has sex with other men (MSM).

These testing recommendations are adapted from the Australian STI Management Guidelines and the WA Silver Book (Guidelines for managing sexually transmitted infections and blood-borne viruses).

Site Specimen	STI/s	Comment
Pharyngeal Swab (dry swab ¹ - PCR)	Chlamydia Gonorrhoea	Clinician-collected
Anorectal Swab (dry swab ¹ - PCR)	Chlamydia Gonorrhoea	Clinician-collected or Self-collected ²
First Void Urine (PCR)	Chlamydia Gonorrhoea ³	>20 mins after last void
Serology	Syphilis ⁴ HIV ⁴ Hepatitis A ⁵ (IgG EIA) Hepatitis B ⁵ (+ surface antibody) Hepatitis C	If HIV negative

¹ Not a charcoal swab.

² The efficacy of patient-collected anorectal swabs is well established and often preferred by patients. Instruct the patient to insert the swab into the anal canal 2-4cms and then remove and place into the transport tube.

³ Asymptomatic gonorrhoea urethritis is not uncommon in Perth-based MSM engaging in anal and oral sex.

⁴ Syphilis and HIV have a 12 week window period, a repeat test may be necessary if exposed within the last 12 weeks.

⁵ Test if no vaccination history is documented. Offer vaccination if no serological evidence of immunity.

All of the STI tests listed in the table above should be offered to all MSM at least once a year. Testing three to six monthly is recommended for men who have any unprotected anal sex, more than 10 sexual partners in six months, attend sex-on-premises venues (SOPVs), beats, use recreational drugs, participate in group sex or seek partners via the internet or mobile apps.

If this patient has symptoms, refer to the Australian STI Management Guidelines or WA Silver Book.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a highly effective HIV prevention medication recommended for at-risk MSM, and is now available through the PBS. Consider discussing PrEP initiation with the patient. Further information on prescribing PrEP is available at: <https://www.ashm.org.au/HIV/PrEP/>

Kind Regards,

M Clinic Team



This form was created at M Clinic, which is an appointment only clinic that provides free, confidential, non-judgmental STI testing & treatment for men who have sex with other men (MSM), including trans men and trans masculine people.

M Clinic

548 Newcastle Street, West Perth, (Corner Cleaver St) 6005

E info@mclinic.org.au | Ph (08) 9227 0734 | ABN 66 376801 057 | www.mclinic.org.au

More Information:

<http://silverbook.health.wa.gov.au> | <http://www.sti.guidelines.org.au> | <http://www.ashm.org.au/resources>