

Everything you need to know about: STI TESTING

If you have had a sexual encounter, you may have been exposed to a sexually transmitted infection (STI).

Sexual encounters that can put someone at risk for an STI include:



oral sex
(mouth to vagina, penis or butt)

OR



penetrative sex
(specifically penis and vagina or penis and butt)



But I have no symptoms?

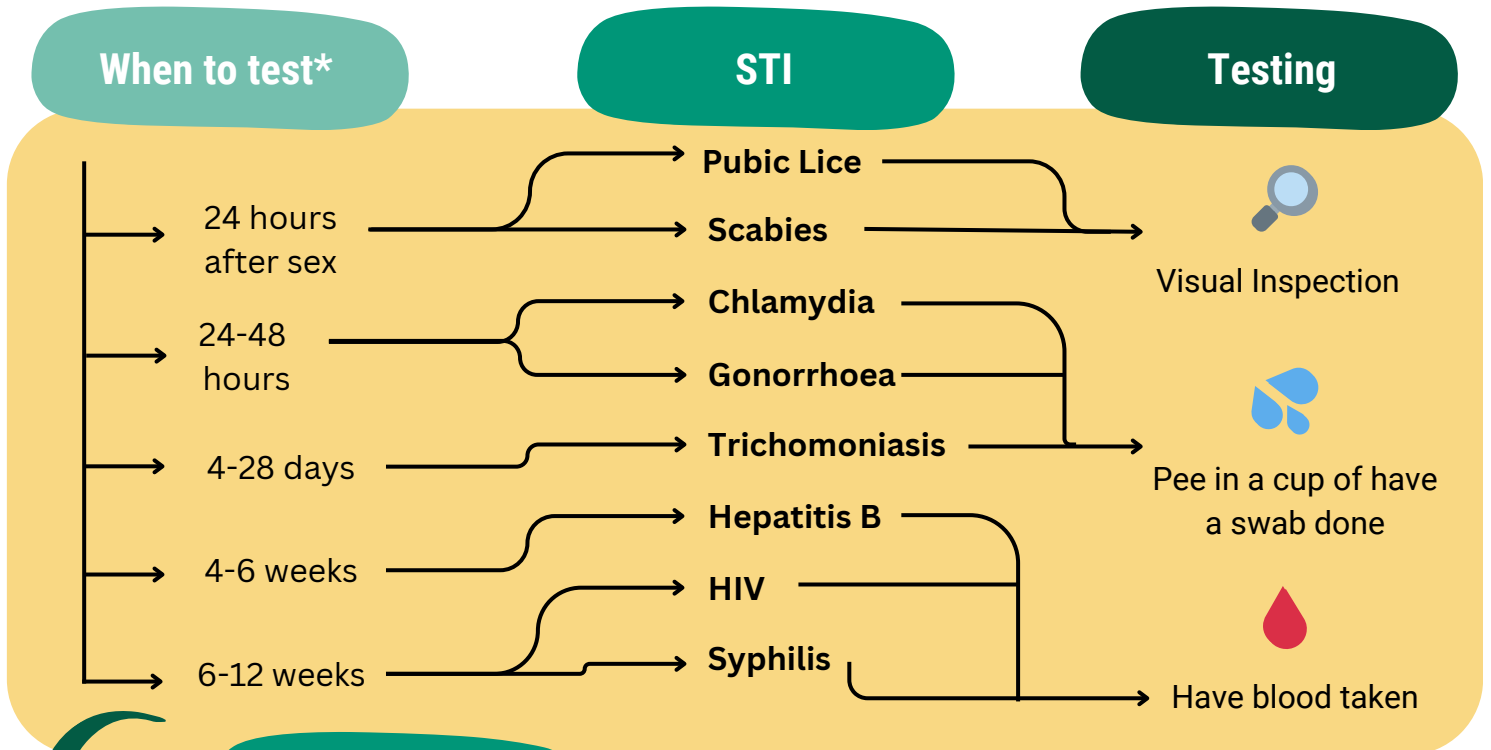
Most STI's do not have any symptoms, which means someone may have an STI and not know it.





What do I need to get tested?

It's important to know that some infections show up on a test as quickly as 24-48 hours after the sexual encounter, while others can take longer to show up on a test. There are also different ways to test for STI's.

Just had a SEXUAL ENCOUNTER?



Exceptions

HPV	In Ontario , testing for HPV is only done when there are symptoms, which means if you have no symptoms, testing is not accurate. Testing can include swabbing or having a PAP test done. PAP tests check for symptoms of HPV on the cervix or in the anus. Talk to your healthcare provider or Planned Parenthood Ottawa for more information.	 Visual inspection or have a swab done (if there are symptoms)
Genital Herpes	In Ontario , testing for herpes is only done when there are symptoms, which means if you have no symptoms testing is not accurate. Talk to your healthcare provider or contact Planned Parenthood Ottawa.	 Visual inspection or have a swab done or in rare cases blood can be drawn

Want to know more?

Contact Planned Parenthood Ottawa at
222 Somerset Street West,
Suite 404, Ottawa, ON K2P 2G3
613-226-3234 ppottawa@ppottawa.ca

*The timelines above are the earliest times at which someone could get tested for each STI. This means you could get tested as soon as each timeline comes up, or you could wait. If you are worried, talk to your health care provider about getting tested sooner or later.