

Before You Get Started

There are important steps to take before you can start offering extragenital (EG) testing. Below are a few tips to get you started.

LAB



- Check with your lab about its capacity and capabilities for three-site testing: can it receive oral and rectal swabs?
- Check how your lab runs tests (e.g., does urine go in cups or tubes?) and ensure you have the necessary supplies.
- Only urine and vaginal samples are FDA cleared for self-collection in a clinic setting. If self-collection of oral and rectal samples is of interest, check with your clinic's lab about [validation requirements](#).

CLINIC



- Consider making patient education posters available in relevant languages
 - [option one](#)
 - [option two](#)
- Make sure that all needed supplies are in the exam room and not expired!
- Make sure staff are trained in [taking a comprehensive sexual history](#) and are comfortable asking patients about their sexual practices.
- Establish a workflow for clarity and efficiency.
 - Who will be labeling swabs and when?
 - Will patients be asked screening questions or given self-administered screeners?
 - Where will collections be completed?
 - How will patients be informed of their results?

There are more resources in our Toolkit to help you with this process. You can reach out to the NYC STI/HIV Prevention Training Center for more personalized support at

nycptc@cumc.columbia.edu