

Resources for Setting Up an STI Clinic

Updated October 2024

Introduction

This resource was created to support the development of an STI clinic; it includes an overview of services an STI clinic should provide and additional items to consider. This is not intended to be a comprehensive list, but rather a starting place for clinics to explore. Additional resources are included at the end of the document.

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Clinic Flow – Steps to Consider

1. Intake
 - Registration
2. Waiting Room
 - Patient education?
 - Monitor/TV?
 - Screenings
 - Consider asking about symptoms that may indicate something contagious, like a cough or a rash
3. Vital Signs
 - Tech?
 - Nurse?
 - Provider?
4. PrEP education and evaluation
 - Benefits/payment?
5. Physician Visit
 - Who brings the patient into the room?
 - Documentation?
 - Orders?
6. Lab Work
 - Where does the patient go for labs?
 - Physician collect vs. self-collect?
 - Who draws the blood?
 - How does blood get to the lab?
 - Where are the labs done?
7. Lab Results
 - How are the results reported to the physician?
 - How are results reported to the patient?
8. Treatment
 - Injections
 - Where can they go?
 - Pills
 - Clinic pick-up
 - Pharmacy pick-up
 - Expedited partner therapy
9. Follow-up
 - When?
 - Who arranges?
 - How is it done?
 - Timing? What's feasible?
 - Frequency?
 - How do you remind patients?

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Checklists for STI Clinics

STI Clinics Should Provide Treatment for the Following Conditions (on-site or via prescription):

Gonorrhea
Chlamydia
Cervicitis
Nongonococcal urethritis
Proctitis
PID
Epididymitis
Syphilis
nPEP
PrEP
Provider-applied regimens for genital warts (cryo, TCA)
Emergency contraceptive pills
EPT for gonorrhea and chlamydia
Herpes
Trichomoniasis
Mycoplasma genitalium
Mpox (if treatment on site not possible, establish referral process to treatment center)

Diagnostics that STI Clinics Should Have On-Site or Regular Access To:

Urogenital NAAT for gonorrhea and chlamydia
Extragenital (pharynx and rectum) NAAT for gonorrhea and chlamydia
Quantitative nontreponemal serologic test for syphilis
Treponemal serologic test for syphilis
Fourth-generation antigen/antibody HIV test
Serologic tests Hepatitis B and C
Testing for pregnancy
HSV viral culture or PCR
Point of care testing for HIV and syphilis

Extras

Oncogenic HPV NAATs with Pap smear (when referral to colposcopy or anoscopy is available)
Colposcopy and Anoscopy (when established referral for HSIL is available)
HSV serology
Serologic Test for Hepatitis A

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Medications that Should be Available in an STI Clinic:

Ceftriaxone
Doxycycline
Azithromycin
Cefixime
Gentamicin
Penicillin G
TDF/FTC
Raltegravir
Dolutegravir
Provider-applied regimens for genital warts (cryo, TCA)
Emergency contraceptive pills
Acyclovir
Metronidazole
Contraception (pills, ring)

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Suggested Lab Equipment for an STI Clinic*

Machine	Tests	Size	Tech Time	Time to Results
Bio-Rad BioPlex 2200	Syphilis (one-step syphilis testing) HIV Ag-Ab 5th gen <i>Hepatitis in development</i>	H: 4' 5" W: 4' 3" D: 2' 10" 1,032 lbs.	Load tubes - 8 hours of walk-away capability	Can process 100 samples/hour. 40-60 minutes for first result, then approx. every 30 secs
Abbott Architect	Hep A, Hep B, Hep C HIV Ag/Ab Syphilis	Different options H: 48-49" W: 59-127" D: 30-49"	Capacity: 65-285 samples	100-400 tests/hour
Aptima Hologic - Panther Systems	Chlamydia Gonorrhea Trichomoniasis Herpes BV Candida Vaginitis HPV HIV-1 RNA Hep B and C	Different options	Suggests minimal hands-on time needed and time saving technology	
Cepheid GeneXpert Systems	Chlamydia Gonorrhea Trichomoniasis	Different options W: 4-22.75" H: 12-25,80" D: 11.7-13.25"		Most test results within an hour

NYC PTC recommends sending out samples for:

- Anal and cervical paps: these are analyzed by a pathologist, not a machine

*This list was developed in March 2022

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Resources

1. Recommendations for providing quality sexually transmitted diseases clinical services, 2020. MMWR Recommendations and Reports, 68(5), 1. CDC.
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/rr/rr6805a1.htm?s_cid=rr6805a1
2. Planning Toolkit for Using CDC's Recommendations for Providing Quality Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinical Services, 2020. NACCHO.
<https://www.naccho.org/uploads/downloadable-resources/NACCHO-STD-QCS-Planning-Toolkit.pdf>
3. Program operations guidelines for STD prevention (link to all publications). CDC Division of STD Prevention, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention.
https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/40219/cdc_40219_DS1.pdf
4. Program operations guidelines for STD prevention: medical and laboratory services. CDC Division of STD Prevention, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention. https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/40219/cdc_40219_DS1.pdf
5. Why Screen for Chlamydia? A How-To Implementation Guide for Healthcare Providers, http://chlamydiacoalition.org/pdfs/Why_Screen.pdf
 - Pg. 9 of this document (Teen Friendly Office Tips) shows a “clinic flow” in a graphic
 - This graphic has considerations for different parts of the clinic visit