
April is Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) Awareness Month

April 1, 2019

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are viruses or bacteria spread through sexual contact with an infected individual. Some of the most common STIs are: chlamydia, gonorrhea, trichomonas vaginalis, and mycoplasma genitalium (M. gen). An estimated 20 million new STIs occur every year in the United States.

Since many STIs show no signs or symptoms, it is imperative that patients are tested if they are at risk of potential exposure to STIs. It is especially important to test women for STIs as they may cause severe health and reproductive problems if left untreated. According to the CDC, all sexually active women younger than 25 years should be tested for chlamydia and gonorrhea every year. Women 25 years or older should also be tested for chlamydia and gonorrhea regularly if they have new or multiple sex partners or engage in sexual activity with someone who has been diagnosed with an STI.¹

PathGroup offers laboratory tests that allow healthcare providers to learn more about their patients' sexual health. Contact a PathGroup representative to learn more about our testing options.

1. Which STD Tests Should I Get? - STD information from CDC. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
<https://www.cdc.gov/std/prevention/screeningreccs.htm>. Accessed March 19, 2019.