

# BCCDC STI Screening and Testing Guide:



## Quick Reference Guide for RN(C)s


**Refer to the BCCDC Certified Practice Decision Support Tool – Assessment and Diagnostic Guideline: Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)**

For BCCDC Public Health Laboratory (PHL) specimen collection instructions, refer to the [eLab Handbook](#).



Where appropriate, also refer to local laboratory and site guidelines.





**Table 1: Routine STI screening and testing based on site of exposure**

Collection Sample	Site	Test	Notes
 <b>CT/GC NAAT</b> For individuals who are symptomatic and/or are a contact to GC, collect C&S first, then NAAT.	• Throat	GC/CT	• Indicated for individuals who have given oral sex on a penis or share sex toys in the throat
	• Vagina	GC/CT	• Vaginal swab is preferred for vaginal cervix
	• Rectum	GC/CT	• Indicated for individuals who have had receptive anal sex (including penetrative sex with toys)
 <b>CT/GC NAAT (urine)</b>	• Urine	GC/CT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offered when cervical or vaginal specimens are not desired or appropriate (e.g., individuals who have undergone vaginoplasty or hysterectomy).</li> <li>• Individual should not have voided in the previous 1-2 hours.</li> <li>• Collect approximately 10-20 ml of first pass urine</li> <li>• If urethral C&amp;S swab is indicated, the urine specimen is collected <i>after</i> the urethral swab (see Table 2)</li> </ul>

Collection Sample	Site	Test	Notes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blood/Draw</li> <li>Venipuncture</li> </ul>	Syphilis EIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the EIA is reactive, further confirmatory testing will be automatically completed by the lab</li> </ul>
		HIV Ag/Ab (4 <sup>th</sup> generation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If acute HIV infection is suspected, contact the medical microbiologist on call at BCCDC (tel: 604-611-7033) to discuss if HIV RNA testing is an option</li> </ul>

**Table 2: Diagnostic testing: additional tests for symptomatic individuals and/or contacts to Gonorrhea**

Collection Sample	Site	Test	Notes
 <p><b>GC Culture</b></p> <p>For individuals who are symptomatic and/or are a contact to GC, collect C&amp;S first, then NAAT</p>	Throat	GC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For asymptomatic and symptomatic contacts to GC, collect C&amp;S first, then NAAT</li> </ul>
	Cervix	GC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GC C&amp;S cervical is preferred</li> <li>Vaginal GC C&amp;S as an alternate option</li> </ul>
	Penile Urethra	GC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collect visible discharge from meatus (ask individual to 'milk' penis if necessary); insertion of swab into urethra is not required</li> </ul>
	Rectum	GC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For individuals who are symptomatic and/or are a contact to GC, collect C&amp;S first, then NAAT</li> </ul>
 <p><b>CT/GC NAAT</b></p>	Vagina	Trichomonas vaginalis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Testing for T. vaginalis is included in the same swab as collected for GC/CT NAAT. It does not require an additional swab</li> <li>This test must be independently selected for on the requisition</li> </ul>

Collection Sample	Site	Test	Notes
 <p><b>Vaginal Smear</b></p> <p>OR</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vagina</li> </ul>	Bacterial Vaginosis & Vulvovaginal Candidiasis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For individuals on testosterone or after vaginoplasty, refer to the <a href="#">STI Assessment and Diagnostic Guideline DST</a> for recommended diagnostic tests</li> </ul>
 <p><b>HSV PCR</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rectum</li> <li>Genital, Cervical, Oral, ulcers or lesions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Herpes Simplex Virus</li> <li>Herpes Simplex Virus</li> <li>Syphilis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the <a href="#">Zoonotics Diseases &amp; Emerging Pathogens</a> requisition and select box: Treponema pallidum Nucleic Acid Testing</li> <li>If another requisition is used, specify: Syphilis NAAT swab</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Genital, Cervical, Rectal, ulcers or lesions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Syphilis</li> <li>Lymphogranuloma Venereum (LGV)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the <a href="#">Zoonotics Diseases &amp; Emerging Pathogens</a> requisition and select box: Treponema pallidum Nucleic Acid Testing</li> <li>If another requisition is used, specify: Syphilis NAAT swab</li> <li>Refer to a physician or NP for all individuals with suspected LGV</li> </ul>

Include the following testing options if applicable/indicated	Notes
Urine dipstick and/or urinalysis with suspected lower UTI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to Uncomplicated Lower UTI DST</li> </ul>
Cervical Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to the <a href="#">BC Cancer Health Cervix Screening for Health Professionals Resources site</a></li> </ul>
Urine Pregnancy Test	