

Sexually Transmitted Infection Risk Assessment

CHILD AND TEEN CHECKUPS (C&TC) FACT SHEET FOR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS

Sexually transmitted infection (STI) risk assessment is required at all C&TC visits beginning at age 11. Conduct risk assessment confidentially with the patient to make them most informative.

C&TC standards

General

STI *risk assessment* is required during all C&TC visits 11 years and older to determine if STI screening is needed. Based on risk factors, provide lab testing, treatment, and counseling as indicated.

Refer to specific testing recommendations based on risk factors in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) [STI Screening Recommendations and Considerations](#):

- Screen all sexually active females for chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and other STIs based on risk assessment and clinical decision-making.
- Screen men who have sex with women, men who have sex with men, and transgender and gender diverse persons based on risk assessment and clinical decision-making.
- For human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) screening, refer to the [HIV Screening C&TC Fact Sheet](#).
- For hepatitis C virus (HCV) screening, refer to the [HCV Screening C&TC Fact Sheet](#).
- For syphilis screening, refer to the [Syphilis Screening C&TC Fact Sheet](#).

Personnel

A licensed health care provider should review and interpret the STI risk assessment: physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or registered or public health nurse (RN or PHN) who has completed the C&TC Comprehensive Screening training through the Minnesota Department of Health.

Documentation

Document a risk assessment was completed and what lab tests were ordered, if applicable. Document a complete record of lab test results in the patient's record.

Refer to the [C&TC Provider Documentation Forms](#) for documentation examples or to use as a template with your electronic medical record.

Procedure

Incorporate STI risk assessment into each C&TC visit as part of broader assessment and guidance related to sexual health.

Conduct the STI risk assessment in a one-to-one conversation with the patient without a parent or guardian present. Inform patient and parent or guardian of [Minnesota's minor's consent law: Minnesota statute 144.343](#).

Perform risk assessment using [Essential Sexual Health Questions to Ask Adolescents, p.3-4](#).

Refer to the CDC's [Guide to Taking a Sexual History](#).

Lab tests

Offer lab testing to patients based on risk factors and clinical decision-making. Refer to the [STI Treatment Guidelines](#).

Importance of STI screening

TIs are among the highest number of annual cases of any condition reported to the CDC. Untreated STIs can lead to infertility and further transmission. Many cases of chlamydia go undiagnosed as it is asymptomatic in about 7 out of 10 people (National Chlamydia Coalition, 2021).

In 2023, the following were reported in Minnesota:

- 21,767 cases of chlamydia
- 7,717 cases of gonorrhea
- 1,621 cases of syphilis

Teens and young adults aged 15 to 24 accounted for 59% of chlamydia cases, 38% of gonorrhea cases, and 16% of all primary and secondary syphilis cases (Minnesota Department of Health, 2024).

Professional recommendations

American Academy of Pediatrics

Provide STI risk assessment and lab testing as appropriate at routine well visits beginning at 11 years (American Academy of Pediatrics, 2025).

United States Preventive Services Task Force

Screen for chlamydia and gonorrhea in all sexually active females 24 years of age and younger (United States Preventive Services Task Force, 2021). Screen for syphilis in all sexually active adolescents and young adults at increased risk for infection (United States Preventive Services Task Force, 2022). Screen for hepatitis B infection in adolescents and adults at increased risk for infection (United States Preventive Services Task Force, 2020).

Resources

Minnesota Department of Human Services

- [C&TC Schedule of Age-Related Screening Standards](#)
- [Minnesota Health Care Programs \(MHCP\) Provider Manual - C&TC Section](#)

Minnesota Department of Health

- [Child and Teen Checkups \(C&TC\)](#)
- [Sexually Transmitted Diseases \(STDs\)](#)

Other resources

- [National STD Consultation Network](#)

For more information

The Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) program is administered through a partnership between the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Minnesota Department of Health.

For questions about this fact sheet or to obtain this information in a different format, call 651-201-3650 or email health.childteencheckups@state.mn.us.

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Resource links

- [Screening Recommendations and Considerations](https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/screening-recommendations.htm)
(www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/screening-recommendations.htm)
- [HIV Screening C&TC Fact Sheet](https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/childrenyouth/ctc/hivscreening.pdf)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/childrenyouth/ctc/hivscreening.pdf>)
- [HCV Screening C&TC Fact Sheet](https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/childrenyouth/ctc/hepc.pdf)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/childrenyouth/ctc/hepc.pdf>)
- [Syphilis Screening C&TC Fact Sheet](https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/childrenyouth/ctc/syphilis.pdf)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/childrenyouth/ctc/syphilis.pdf>)
- [C&TC Provider Documentation Forms](https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/policies-procedures/minnesota-health-care-programs/provider/types/ctc-resources)
(<https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/policies-procedures/minnesota-health-care-programs/provider/types/ctc-resources>)
- [Minnesota's minor's consent law: Minnesota statute 144.343](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=144.343)
(www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=144.343)
- [Essential Sexual Health Questions to Ask Adolescents, p.3-4](https://wp05.cdn.ihealthspot.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/52/2024/10/All-Pocket-Cards_May-2022.pdf)
(https://wp05.cdn.ihealthspot.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/52/2024/10/All-Pocket-Cards_May-2022.pdf)
- [Guide to Taking a Sexual History](https://www.cdc.gov/sti/hcp/clinical-guidance/taking-a-sexual-history.html)
(<https://www.cdc.gov/sti/hcp/clinical-guidance/taking-a-sexual-history.html>)
- [STI Treatment Guidelines](https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/default.htm)
(www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/default.htm)
- [C&TC Schedule of Age-Related Screening Standards](https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-3379-ENG)
(<https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-3379-ENG>)

- [Minnesota Health Care Programs \(MHCP\) Provider Manual - C&TC Section](https://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=dhs16_150092)
(www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=dhs16_150092)
- [Child and Teen Checkups \(C&TC\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/cfh/program/ctc/index.cfm)
(www.health.state.mn.us/divs/cfh/program/ctc/index.cfm)
- [Sexually Transmitted Diseases \(STDs\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/stds/index.html)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/stds/index.html>)
- [National STD Consultation Network](https://www.stdccn.org/render/Public)
(<https://www.stdccn.org/render/Public>)

References

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- National Chlamydia Coalition. (2021). *For Healthcare Providers*. Retrieved from www.chlamydiacoalition.org/for-healthcare-providers/
- United States Preventive Services Task Force. (2020). Screening for Hepatitis B Virus Infection in Adolescents and Adults: US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement. *JAMA*.
- United States Preventive Services Task Force. (2021, September). Screening for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea: US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement. *JAMA*.
- United States Preventive Services Task Force. (2022). Screening for Syphilis Infection in Nonpregnant Adolescents and Adults: US Preventive Services Task Force Reaffirmation Recommendation Statement. *JAMA*.