



BCCDC STI Screening and Testing Guide

Quick Reference Guide for RN(C)s

Refer to the [Certified](#) and [Non-Certified](#) Practice Decision Support Tools (DST's) and the [BCCDC HIV Guidelines](#) for more detailed information. For BCCDC Public Health Laboratory (PHL) specimen collection instructions, refer to the [eLab Handbook](#). Where appropriate, also refer to local laboratory and site guidelines.

Preferred specimens are listed first and noted in *italics*.

STI Screening for Asymptomatic Individuals			
Test/Sites		Specimen type/Notes	
GC/CT NAAT	Penile urethra	Urine	If asymptomatic contact to GC, collect GC C&S first (where available), then GC/CT NAAT for all affected sites.
	Vagina ^Ω	<i>Vaginal swab</i> , cervical swab or urine	
	Rectum	Rectal swab. Indication: receptive anal sex	
	Throat	Throat swab. Indication: oral sex on a penis	
Syphilis serology		If EIA reactive, confirmatory tests are reflexively done by the BCCDC PHL	
HIV serology (or POC test)			

Ω Urine or vaginal swab, if total hysterectomy. Urine, if vaginoplasty.

STI Testing for Symptomatic Individuals						
Based upon sexual history and clinical presentation, consider the following tests where epidemiologically and clinically appropriate:						
Site of symptoms	GC C&S If available, collect first	GC/CT NAAT	T. Vaginalis	BV & Yeast	HSV PCR	Syphilis PCR
Vagina	<i>Cervical or vaginal</i>	<i>Vaginal</i> , cervical or urine ^Ω		✓*		
Penile urethra	✓	Urine				
Rectum	✓	✓ [▲]			✓	
Throat	✓	✓				
Anogenital/Oral lesions		✓ [◆]			✓	✓ [■]

Ω Urine or vaginal swab, if total hysterectomy. Urine, if vaginoplasty.

* See [PHSA TransCare Primary Care](#) resources for detailed ordering instructions on testing after total hysterectomy while on testosterone, and after vaginoplasty. Consider vaginal pH and KOH whiff test if available.

▲ If rectal CT positive, swab is automatically referred to the National Microbiology Lab (NML) by BCCDC PHL for LGV testing.

◆ If LGV infection is suspected, consider CT NAAT. Consult with and/or refer to MD/NP. Add note on lab requisition: "Refer to NML for LGV testing".

■ Add note on lab requisition: "Send to BCCDC PHL, attn: Dr. Morshed".

Venipuncture Tests	
Syphilis EIA	If EIA reactive, confirmatory tests are automatically done by the BCCDC PHL.
HIV serology (or POC test)	If acute infection is suspected, consult BCCDC Medical Microbiologist on-call to discuss HIV RNA testing: 604-661-7033 .
HSV type-specific serology (TSS)	See testing indications in the HSV DST

For information on hepatitis A, B and C testing, refer to the [STI Assessment DST](#) and the [BCCDC Communicable Disease Manual, Chapter 1: Communicable Disease Control](#).