

# For PRACTICE NURSES



## Pap Smears (with health check)

MBS items 10994 & 10995 ( metro, urban, regional rural and remote divisions)

**10994** - require taking of a pap smear and at least one preventive check

**10995** - require taking of a Pap Smear from a woman between the ages of 20 and 69 inclusive (who has not had a cervical smear in the last 4 years) and at least one preventive check

### Eligibility

Items 10994 and 10995 include a Pap Smear and preventive check associated with women's sexual and reproductive health, which could be routinely undertaken in conjunction with a Pap Smear.



A preventive check is a service which is reasonably necessary and appropriate for preventive care based on evidence of effectiveness and efficacy appropriate to the age of the patient.

#### Examples of a preventive check are

- \* Checks for sexually transmitted infections (including Chlamydia)
- \* Taking of a sexual and reproductive history
- \* Advice on contraception
- \* Breast awareness education
- \* Advice on post natal issues
- \* Continence advice and education;

# What is Chlamydia?

Chlamydia is the most common notifiable sexually transmitted bacterial infection in Australia<sup>1</sup>. Many people who are infected do not have symptoms but can still spread it. Chlamydia can lead to infertility, and other complications if not treated.

## Who do I test for Chlamydia?

Both male and female sexually active patients < 25 years old should be tested if they:

- \* have engaged in unprotected sex
- \* have had a recent partner change
- \* as part of antenatal screening

We suggest you offer all patients under 25 years of age a urine PCR test for Chlamydia.

## How do I test for Chlamydia?

Undertake a Chlamydia urine PCR. Ask the patient to void the first part of the urine stream into a specimen jar. It is preferable that the patient has not passed urine at least one hour prior to collection.

## How is Chlamydia treated?

Treat with 1g Azithromycin Stat as a single oral dose. After the treatment begins, advise patient not to have sex for at least 7 days, because the infection can still be spread.

## What else do I need to consider?

Treatment of all sexual partners within the last 6 months. All patients who test positive for chlamydia must be retested in 3 months and re-treat if the test is positive. Discuss prevention of chlamydia and other STIs by reinforcing condom use and regular STI testing.

## Brief Sexual History

*"I'd like to ask you some questions about your sexual activity so we can decide what tests to do, is that OK?"*

- Are you currently in a relationship?
- In the last 3 months, how many sexual partners have you had?  
How many partners have you had in the past 12 months?
- Were these casual or regular partners?
- Were your sexual partners male, female or both?
- From today, when was the last time you had vaginal sex/oral sex/anal sex without a condom?
- In the past year were you ever paid for sex?
- Have you previously been diagnosed with an STI?
- Is there anything else that is concerning you?



Fact sheets on STIs <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/infectious/chlamydia.html>

<sup>1</sup>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2008. Australia's health 2008. Cat. no. AUS 99, Canberra: AIHW.

PCR = Nucleic Acid Amplification test

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For help with contact tracing, treatment, advice, referral for health care workers and their patients call - NSW Sexual Health Infoline 1800 451 624 FREE CALL.



For more information on Well Women's screening course <http://www.fpnsw.org.au/education/calendar/>

