

STI* Testing and other Sexual Health Resources - Los Angeles

Resource developed by Ariana Katz, MPH

The notes at top are from Ariana and she collated the rest of the links from a variety of resources. If you notice anything incorrect or missing, please reach out!

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A wee bit of preamble

A note on language and stigma: Please try to use non-stigmatizing language as much as possible when it comes to STIs and if you hear someone else using stigmatizing language, politely correct them! Like any infection, an STI diagnosis does not mean that you become that infection, so instead of saying an HIV positive person, for example, we can say someone living with HIV. **Someone who tests positive for an STI is not 'dirty', nor are you 'clean' if you test negative for everything.** If someone tests positive for an STI, they simply tested positive for an STI. Use simple, clear, non-stigmatizing language and we can all be responsible sluts together!

*Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) is the more common term used nowadays because an infection doesn't mean it has turned into a disease. However, you'll see from these various city and county resources that Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) is still often used as well.

Where to get tested: Many of these screening options listed below are offered for free through Los Angeles city or county services. You can always also go to your primary care doctor or urgent care though costs may vary.

Cost and prevention vs treatment: If you are asked to provide insurance, costs may vary. If you are getting STI testing for prevention purposes (i.e., you are not experiencing symptoms or had a known exposure) it may be free or low cost depending on your insurance. You may get charged a co-pay or pay for labs depending on your plan.

<https://consentculture.community/faq-items/are-std-and-sti-tests-free-or-covered-by-insurance/>

If you test positive for an STI and need treatment, or you have a known exposure, costs will depend on your insurance plan. Our healthcare system is unfortunately extremely complicated and inconsistent and changes frequently. You can always refer to your plan paperwork or call your insurance provider to get more information.

Frequency of testing: This is a personal decision however generally the recommendation is every 3-6 months for people who are sexually actively, especially if you have multiple partners. If, for example, you have frequent penetrative anal or vaginal sex without using condoms with multiple people, or your partner who you have penetrative sex without condoms has sex without condoms with other partners, or you or they have other health or risk factors, you may want to consider testing more frequently.

Be your own patient advocate: In a perfect world our healthcare providers would be fully aware of the sex-positive life and ask you questions that help you decide what tests to get and how frequently. Unfortunately we don't live in this world (yet) so you have to advocate for yourself. Instead of asking for a 'full panel', tell your provider what tests you want done and be specific! In addition to blood work, you may want to get a urine test, or swabs. Many providers will not offer oral or anal swabs so you have to ask for them.

Information about the various STI's:

https://www.ashasexualhealth.org/stds_a_to_z/

Risk factors: This is also subjective. Statistics on STIs tells us that certain demographic groups are at higher risk of STIs than others. (Ex:

http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp/Reports/STD/2023_STI_Snapshot_LAC_only_011425.pdf) This can be due to a variety of reasons that include social, biological, cultural, and other factors (e.g., medical racism). Just because one group may be at higher risk does not mean we should assume that an individual from that group has an STI or are at higher risk themselves. Population level statistics only tells us so much. Individual risk factors are much harder to decipher. Think about the number of partners you have, your and all your partners' use of condoms and other barriers, and their use of condoms/barriers with their other partners, what types of sex you're all having, history or current status of STIs, etc.

<https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/clinical-risk.htm>

Also, the more clear you are on the type of sex you have (e.g., insertive penis in vagina or receptive penis in anus) the better you and your provider can decipher your risk levels.

STD Screening and Treatment Services

<https://getprotectedla.com/where-to-get-an-hiv-std-test/>

Listed below are multiple STD and HIV screening and treatment resources available to you in Los Angeles County. We encourage sexually active people to get tested every 3 months. Find the location and time that works best for you!

Para **Español**, [oprima aquí](#).

- [Pocket Guide LA](#): STD/HIV Services for Youth in Los Angeles County!
- **Los Angeles County Public Health STD Clinics** - Find **FREE** confidential STD screening and treatment near you.
 - STD Clinic Schedule and Locations: [English](#) | [Español](#)
- **Division of HIV and STD Programs** - offers **FREE** HIV/STD screening. Please call [\(323\) 629-3411](tel:3236293411) for the current testing site schedule.

- **AIDS Healthcare Foundation:**

- **Wellness Center on Western**
1811 N. Western Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90027
[\(855\) 783-2434](tel:8557832434)
Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00am - 8:00pm;
Saturday: 9:30am - 5:30pm
Closed Sunday and Monday
- **Wellness Center on Adams**
2146 W. Adams Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90018
[\(855\) 783-2434](tel:8557832434)
Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 12:00pm - 8:00pm;
Saturday: 9:30am - 5:30pm;
Closed Tuesday and Sunday
- **Wellness Center in Long Beach**
3500 E. Pacific Coast Hwy
Long Beach, CA 90804
[\(562\) 494-4983](tel:5624944983)
Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:00am - 7:00pm
Closed Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday

- **AltaMed Health Services:**

- 1855 N. Fair Oaks Ave.,
Pasadena, CA 91103
[\(626\) 398-6300](tel:6263986300)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
- 1595 N. Lake Ave.,
Pasadena, CA 91104
[\(626\) 398-6300](tel:6263986300)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm

- 3160 E. Del Mar Blvd.,
Pasadena, CA 91107
[\(626\) 398-6300](tel:(626)398-6300)
Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 5:00pm
Friday 8:00am - 4:45pm
- 2055 Lincoln Ave.,
Pasadena, CA 91103
[\(626\) 398-6300](tel:(626)398-6300)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 12:00pm, 1:00pm - 5:00pm
- 513 E. Lime Ave.,
Monrovia, CA 91016
[\(626\) 398-6300](tel:(626)398-6300)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
- 3703 Peck Rd., Suite C,
El Monte, CA 91731
[\(626\) 398-6300](tel:(626)398-6300)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
- 10408 Vacco St., Suite A,
South El Monte, CA 91733
[\(626\) 398-6300](tel:(626)398-6300)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
- **APLA Health & Wellness (Ariana's note: as of June 1 they lost federal funding and were no longer providing free STI testing...This may change):**
 - **Baldwin Hills**
3743 S. La Brea Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90016
[\(323\) 329-9900](tel:(323)329-9900)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
 - **Baldwin Hills - Out Here Sexual Health Center**
3741 S. La Brea Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90016
[\(213\)201-5000](tel:(213)201-5000)
Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00am - 2:00pm, 3:00pm - 7:00pm
Tuesday, Friday 8:00am - 12:00pm, 1:00pm - 5:00pm
 - **Mid-Wilshire**
5901 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 310
Los Angeles, CA 90036
[\(323\) 215-1725](tel:(323)215-1725)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm

- **Charles Drew University/MLK Medical Campus**
1679 E. 120th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90059
[\(323\) 329-9700](tel:(323)329-9700)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 12:00pm, 1:00pm - 5:00pm
- **Long Beach - St. Mary Medical Center Campus**
1043 Elm Ave., Suite 302
Long Beach, CA 90813
[\(562\) 247-7740](tel:(562)247-7740)
Hours: Monday, Thursday, Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
Tuesday, Wednesday 8:00am - 7:00pm
- **Central City Community Health Center:**
 - **South Los Angeles Health Center**
5970 S. Central Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90001
[\(323\) 234-3280](tel:(323)234-3280)
Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
Tuesday, Thursday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 8:00am - 2:30pm
- **Children's Hospital Los Angeles - STD Services for Youth Aged 12 - 24 Years:**
 - 3250 Wilshire Blvd., 3rd Floor,
Los Angeles, CA 90010
[\(323\) 361-7550](tel:(323)361-7550)
Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm, 1:00pm - 4:00pm
- **JWCH Institute:**
 - **Wesley Health Centers - Bellflower**
14371 Clark Ave.
Bellflower, CA 90706
[\(866\) 733-5924](tel:(866)733-5924) or [\(562\) 867-7999](tel:(562)867-7999)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
 - **Wesley Health Centers - Vermont**
954 N. Vermont Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90029
[\(866\) 733-5924](tel:(866)733-5924) or [\(562\) 867-7999](tel:(562)867-7999)
Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 8:00pm
Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
 - **Wesley Health Centers - Health and Wellness Center**
45104 10th Street West,
Lancaster, CA 93534

[\(866\) 733-5924](tel:(866)733-5924) or [\(562\) 867-7999](tel:(562)867-7999)

Hours: Monday 8:00am - 5:00pm

Tuesday - Friday 10:00am - 7:00pm

- **Flex Baths**

4424 Melrose Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 90029

[\(866\) 733-5924](tel:(866)733-5924) or [\(562\) 867-7999](tel:(562)867-7999)

Hours: Monday - Sunday 3:00pm - 12:00am

- **Slammer Club**

3688 Beverly Blvd.,

Los Angeles, CA 90004

[\(866\) 733-5924](tel:(866)733-5924) or [\(562\) 867-7999](tel:(562)867-7999)

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00pm - 12:00am

Saturday 3:00pm - 12:00am

- **North Hollywood Spa**

5635 Vineland Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 91601

[\(866\) 733-5924](tel:(866)733-5924) or [\(562\) 867-7999](tel:(562)867-7999)

Hours: Monday, Thursday - Sunday 3:00pm - 12:00am

- **Los Angeles LGBT Center:**

- **McDonald/Wright Building (walk-ins accepted, same-day appointments available)**

1625 N. Schrader Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90028

[\(323\) 993-2997](tel:(323)993-2997)

Hours: Monday - Friday 10:00am - 7:00pm

- **The Center WeHo (walk-ins accepted, same-day appointments available)**

8745 Santa Monica Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90069

[\(323\) 993-2997](tel:(323)993-2997)

Hours: Monday - Friday 10:00am - 7:00pm

- **LGBTQ Center, Long Beach:**

- 2017 East 4th St.

Long Beach, CA 90814

[\(562\) 434-4455](tel:(562)434-4455) ext. 500

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm

Wednesday 12:00pm - 9:00pm

- **Men's Health Foundation:**

- **SoCal Club**
8601 S. Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90003
[\(424\) 245-3486](tel:(424)245-3486)
Hours: Monday - Thursday 11:00am - 2:45pm, 4:00pm - 7:45pm
Friday 9:00am - 12:45pm, 2:00pm - 5:45pm
- **West Hollywood**
8280 Santa Monica Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90046
[\(424\) 245-3486](tel:(424)245-3486)
Hours: Monday - Thursday 11:00am - 2:45pm, 4:00pm - 7:45pm
Friday - Saturday 9:00am - 12:45pm, 2:00pm - 5:45pm
- **Northeast Valley Health Corporation:**
 - **Van Nuys Adult Health Center**
14624 Sherman Way, Suite 600
Van Nuys, CA 91405
[\(818\) 988-6335](tel:(818)988-6335)
Hours: Monday, Thursday, Saturday 8:00am - 5:00pm
Tuesday, Wednesday 8:00am - 9:00pm
Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm
- **St. Mary Medical Center:**
 - **CARE Center at Dignity Health**
1040 Elm Avenue, Suite 200
Long Beach, CA 90813
[\(562\) 624-4999](tel:(562)624-4999)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm
- **Tarzana Treatment Centers:**
 - **Reseda**
7101 Baird Avenue
Reseda, CA 91335
[\(818\) 342-5897](tel:(818)342-5897)
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm
Every Other Saturday: 9:00am - 2:00pm
- **Watts Healthcare Corporation:**
 - **Watts Health Center**
10300 Compton Ave.
Los Angeles CA 90002
[\(323\) 564-4331](tel:(323)564-4331)
Hours: Every Day 9:00am - 2:00pm

- **Don't live in L.A. County?** [Click here](#) for more STD screening sites.

Other in person options for STI Testing (not listed on LA County website):

- **Planned Parenthood**
<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/get-care/our-services/std-testing-and-treatment>

Specific Resources for people with vaginas

Free at home gonorrhea & chlamydia

<https://la.dontthinkknow.org/get-the-facts/about-the-test>

The **FREE home test kit** that is currently offered includes a vaginal swab that tests for vaginal chlamydia and gonorrhea infections. The program is currently available to young women, girls, transmen, and any person with a vagina between the age of 12-44 in Los Angeles County who is sexually active or has had sex in the past.

Places lesbian and bisexual women can go for HIV/STD tests and Paps:

- [The Los Angeles LGBT Center](#)
Provides a broad array of services for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. The Center offers free and low-cost health, mental health, HIV/AIDS medical care, HIV/STD testing, and prevention. It also has an alternative insemination service. The Center's Audre Lorde Lesbian Health Program provides cancer screening services including Pap smears, breast exams, and mammograms for uninsured women who meet the financial eligibility criteria. Call [\(323\) 993-7500](tel:3239937500) or e-mail healthservices@LAGayCenter.org for more information. The Center also offers legal, social, cultural, and educational services, with unique programs for seniors, families and youth, including a 24-bed transitional living program for homeless youth.
- [LA County STD clinics](#)
Offer free STD and HIV tests. Some of these clinics offer Paps to women getting STD testing. Call individual clinics to inquire.

- [Planned Parenthood](#)

Clinics and providers offer STD and PAP tests. If you also need birth control, you may be eligible for low or no-cost services under the Family PACT program.

- [Gay and Lesbian Medical Association](#)

Offers a tool to find a doctor who is GLBT friendly in your area.

- [The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender National Help Center](#)

The center provides free and confidential telephone and e-mail peer counseling, information and local resources. Their toll-free National Hotline number is [1-888-THE-GLNH \(1-888-843-4564\)](tel:1-888-THE-GLNH). Information is also available by e-mailing glnh@GLBTNationalHelpCenter.org. There is also a toll-free Youth Talkline, run by young people, for teens and young adults up to age 25. 1-800-246-PRIDE ([1-800-246-7743](tel:1-800-246-7743))youth@GLBTNationalHelpCenter.org

STD Testing Resources with Special Services for Gay and Bisexual Men

- [Public Health and other non-profit organizations](#) provide care to people living with HIV, as well as prevention and advocacy services to prevent HIV and other STD transmission.
- [Check Yourself](#) campaign website for men who have sex with men: Syphilis-focused Web site has L.A. County STD testing locator by ZIP code.

Other Resources

[Free condoms](#)

PrEP

- <https://getprepla.com>

DoxyPep

- <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp/DoxyPEP-ActionKit.htm>
- <https://lalgbtcenter.org/doxy/>

At home testing kits

- https://mybls.com/collections/std-hero?sca_ref=9383591.H5OSDkBYidk&utm_source=affiliate&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=9383591