

Diagnosing and Treating Bacterial STIs in Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM)

- STIs are on the rise among NYC MSM. Anal **gonorrhea (GC)**, anal **Chlamydia (CT)** and **syphilis** may facilitate HIV transmission.
- Many anogenital STIs are asymptomatic. Urine/urethral screening alone misses over half of GC and CT cases in asymptomatic MSM and transgender people.
- Empiric treatment is often indicated based on symptoms, and the most commonly associated pathogens.

Syndrome	Sign/Symptom	Immediate Next Steps
Urethritis	Discharge or dysuria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test and empirically treat for GC/CT. • Test for syphilis and HIV. • Consider HSV testing/treatment of suspicious ulcerative lesions.
Proctitis	Ulcer, discharge or pain	
Early syphilis dermatologic findings	Possible chancre or rash of secondary syphilis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test and empirically treat for syphilis. • Screen for GC/CT and HIV/acute HIV. • Consider HSV testing/treatment of suspicious ulcerative lesions.

Use a 3-Site Screening Strategy

Site	Test for	Type of sexual exposure	Notes
Throat	GC only	Oral receptive	NAAT (Self-collection if patient prefers) NAAT=Nucleic Acid Amplification Test
Anorectal	GC/CT	Anal receptive (bottom)	NAAT (Self-collection if patient prefers; still conduct physical exam)
Urine or urethral	GC/CT	Oral/anal insertive (top)	NAAT (First catch urine preferred)
Serology	Syphilis	Any	Treponemal IgG, RPR, Darkfield microscopy of anogenital lesions.

Screening recommended every 3 to 6 months for MSM with multiple or anonymous sex partners or illicit drug use

Expedited Bacterial STI Treatment for Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM)

Treatment Regimens

Syndrome	First-line empiric therapy
Urethritis	Empiric tx for GC and CT Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM <i>PLUS</i> Azithromycin 1g PO
Proctitis	Empiric tx for GC and CT Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM <i>PLUS</i> Doxycycline 100 mg PO BID x 7 days* * Extend DOX 100 mg BID to 21 days for confirmed rectal CT or high clinical suspicion of lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV)
Chancre or disseminated rash	Empiric tx for primary (chancre) or secondary (rash) syphilis Single dose Benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units IM

+ For detailed STI treatment guidelines, and alternative regimens, see the "STD Treatment Guidelines Table" in your Action Kit, or www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015

Reporting STI Cases

- Report confirmed cases of GC, CT and syphilis **within 24 hours** using Reporting Central, accessible via NYCMED at nyc.gov/nycmed, unless otherwise noted.
 - Go to nyc.gov/health/diseasereporting for more information about how to report online or about other methods of reporting.
 - Register for an NYCMED account at nyc.gov/nycmed. For assistance with registration, email nycmed@health.nyc.gov or call 888-NYCMED9 (888-692-6339)