

It's universal
It's recommended.
It's for her protection.

It's Best to Test.

Protect your patients'
reproductive health with
universal screening



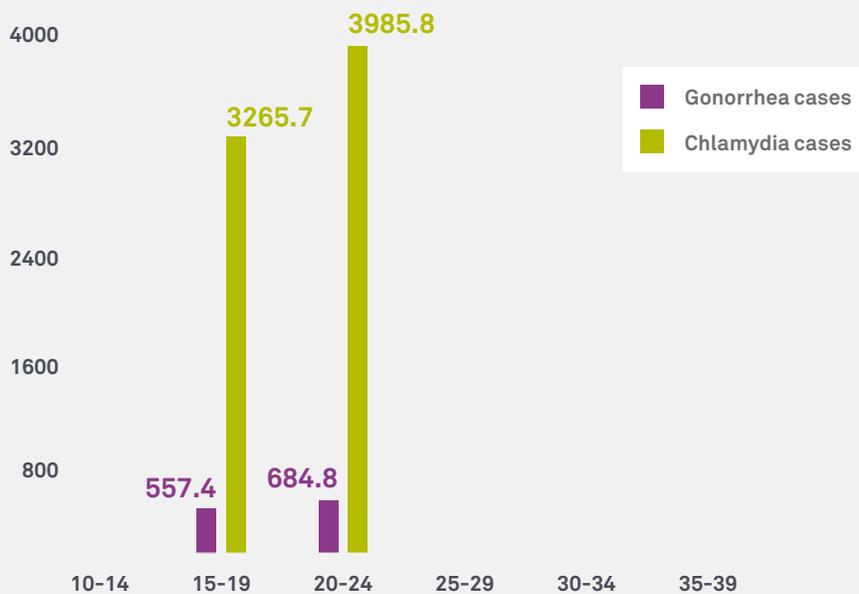
It's universal—young women are most at risk

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that people ages 15–24 account for half of the 20 million new sexually transmitted infections (STIs) that occur in the US each year.¹

The risk is highest among women in this age group, as they are disproportionately affected by chlamydia and gonorrhea. Early infection in women is often asymptomatic, meaning these patients may have an infection and not know it.²

Chlamydia and gonorrhea

Rates of reported cases in 2017 among women ages 15–24²



A vast majority of women are **asymptomatic**

Asymptomatic in women^{3,4}:

Up to **90%**
of chlamydia cases

Up to **80%**
of gonorrhea cases

45% of chlamydia cases in the US in 2017 were among women ages 15–24⁵

Young women ages 15–24 are most at risk for STIs, but they don't want to feel singled out—and **more than half** don't want to bring up sex or STIs with their doctor.⁶



24,000

women each year
become infertile due
to undiagnosed STIs⁷

It's recommended—by leading health organizations

Screening all sexually active females under the age of 25 can help your patients feel more at ease, and guidelines recommend it.

The CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), as well as other leading health organizations,* recommend chlamydia and gonorrhea screening of all sexually active females under 25.⁸⁻¹²

It's for her protection—help ensure your patients' reproductive health

Implementing universal, routine screening for females under the age of 25 can also help protect your patients' reproductive health.

How? Left untreated, chlamydia and gonorrhea may affect the upper reproductive tract, resulting in pelvic inflammatory disease (PID).³ PID can have devastating consequences for women, including:

- Infertility³
- Life-threatening ectopic pregnancy,³ the leading obstetrical cause of maternal mortality in the first trimester^{13,14}
- Chronic pelvic pain³

PID

Left untreated, chlamydia infections can lead to PID¹⁵



Universal screening has the potential to reduce the number of chlamydia cases by 55%¹⁶

Early detection and treatment of chlamydia and gonorrhea has been shown to reduce a woman's risk for PID—and ultimately protect her fertility.³

* The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP); United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF); American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)



It's Best to Test with Quest Diagnostics

Our program can help your office get started with a routine chlamydia and gonorrhea screening protocol

Despite the high numbers, 86% of women in this age group don't think they're at risk for STIs.¹⁷ Some patients may be reluctant to get tested, or even talk about chlamydia and gonorrhea with their doctors. Implementing a universal screening program with *It's Best to Test* from Quest Diagnostics can help.

It's Best to Test offers materials and resources for you and your patients and a variety of testing options to help you easily integrate screening into your practice.

- **Patient materials**—includes an exam room patient tear pad and brochure that can help you explain to both patients and their parents why screening routinely for chlamydia and gonorrhea is your office's protocol, and that testing will be performed unless they opt out
- **The testing you need**—includes a variety of testing options: patient- or clinician-collected vaginal swabs, cervical swab (by itself or as part of a Pap test), and urine specimen testing to help make routine screening as easy as possible for you and your patients

Increasing the amount and frequency of appropriate testing based on guidelines offers your patients better protection, for better health outcomes.

It's expected—patients rely on you to keep them protected

Because some patients may be reluctant to get tested, or even talk about it, they need your help to keep them protected. Here are some tips for reinforcing the importance of routine screening for chlamydia and gonorrhea.

Make it known that your practice universally tests young women under the age of 25 for chlamydia and gonorrhea.

A 2017 study from Quest Diagnostics revealed that 72% of women under 25 want their doctors to automatically test them for chlamydia and gonorrhea once a year¹⁷; knowing that you universally screen may help them feel less singled out or judged

Communicate that these infections are common, might not have symptoms, and could have serious consequences if left undiagnosed and untreated.

86% of women in this age group don't think they're at risk¹⁷

Explain the guidelines from leading health organizations for routine chlamydia and gonorrhea screening.

80% of women ages 15–24 think they should be tested for chlamydia and gonorrhea once per year because that's what national guidelines recommend¹⁷

What about cost?

Chlamydia and gonorrhea testing is a covered benefit under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).¹⁸ For many patients, this could mean no co-pay or out-of-pocket costs for many patients.

Routine screening can also help lessen the economic burden of STIs.¹⁹ Among non-viral STIs, chlamydia is the costliest infection,¹⁹ and a universal testing strategy has been shown to decrease the overall chlamydia prevalence by more than 55%.¹⁶

Consent for testing your patients

Some younger patients, might have concerns about whether they can consent to chlamydia and gonorrhea testing without their parents' permission. To find out more about individual state consent requirements, visit [ItsBestToTest.com](https://www.itsbesttotest.com).

[†] Restrictions may apply. Coverage will need to be confirmed with individual health plans.

Make testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea **part of your routine**

Screening for chlamydia and gonorrhea is easy—and so is treatment. Implement a routine with help from the *It's Best to Test* program from Quest.

Test Name	Test Code	CPT Code [†]
Chlamydia Trachomatis/Neisseria Gonorrhoeae RNA, TMA	11363(X)	87491, 87591

[†]The CPT codes provided are based on AMA guidelines and are for informational purposes only. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Please direct any questions regarding coding to the payer being billed.



Ask your Quest Diagnostics sales representative about implementing universal screening in your practice. Visit **ItsBestToTest.com** for more information.

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