

Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Testing

Live Well to
Learn Well

Web:
health.cornell.edu

Phone (24/7):
607-255-5155

Fax:
607-255-0269

Appointments:
Monday–Saturday

*Check web for hours,
services, providers,
and appointment
information*

110 Ho Plaza,
Ithaca, NY
14853-3101

Some people have a sexually transmitted infection (STI) and don't know it. Others have symptoms of infection but don't know what to do. Still others may be concerned about their risk after learning their sexual partner has symptoms of infection.

Cornell Health has services and support to help you learn more about your STI status.

If you HAVE symptoms:

It's important to be evaluated by a clinician, as medical treatment may be necessary. You can schedule a medical appointment online (at myCornellHealth) or by phone (607-255-5155).

If you are experiencing discomfort at the time of your call, be sure to let our staff know so they can schedule you for an appointment as soon as possible.

Is there one test for everything?

Unfortunately, no. STIs can be bacterial, viral, fungal, etc., and there is no one inclusive test. When you get tested, you may be asked to provide several different kinds of samples (e.g., urine sample, a vaginal, throat, or anal swab, blood sample, etc.).

Can I transmit an infection to a partner if I don't have symptoms?

Yes; STIs can be transmitted even when symptoms are not present. Fortunately, tests are available to diagnose some STIs even if there are no symptoms.

If you DON'T HAVE symptoms:

Consulting with a sexual health nurse can help you learn more about your risks and/or get tested. You can make an appointment for a nurse visit by going online to myCornellHealth. This patient portal is accessible from every page of health.cornell.edu.

What happens during STI testing?

It depends. In each visit a provider will:

- Ask detailed questions about your sexual activities
- Answer any questions you have



Testing for many STIs is possible whether or not you have symptoms.

Depending on your symptoms and your sexual history and other risk factors, a provider may:

- Provide you with instructions to take a urine sample and/or a vaginal or rectal swab
- Conduct a physical assessment/examination Collect a specimen by swabbing your throat, penis, anus, or vagina
- Send you to the lab for a blood sample

Cost of testing

If you are covered by a Cornell Student Health Plan (SHP or SHP+) or you pay the student health fee, then there is no charge for STI testing performed at Cornell Health.

Additional testing resources

- The Tompkins County Health Department makes free STI testing available to its residents. They contract with the local Planned Parenthood to provide this service for residents of Tompkins County. For information about free testing, call 607-273-1513.

