

Many students come into Student Health Services requesting “an STD screen” in the hope of finding out if they have any sexually transmitted infections. While we at Student Health Services encourage the responsible attitude of caring for one’s health, we also wish to explain the limitations of such screening.

What you need to know about STD tests:

1. **There is no such thing as an “all-in-one STD test”.**
 - ◆ Some infections have tests to screen for their presence, some don’t.
 - ◆ Each test has to be ordered individually and specifically.
2. On occasion, a test can be normal (Negative) but the disease being screened for can still be present.
3. There is a difference between a SCREENING Test and a DIAGNOSTIC Test. **Screenings** are used when there are no symptoms (pain, itching, etc.) or signs (rash, blister, etc.) present. **Diagnostic** tests are used when symptoms are present.

KNOWN STDs	Screening Test	Diagnostic Test
Chlamydia	Urine or Cervical swab	Urine or Cervical swab
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)–cervical warts	Pap test	HPV testing
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)–genital warts	None	Clinical evaluation
Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV II)–genital herpes	Blood Test (\$39.25)	Swab of lesion
Molluscum Contagiosum–smooth bumps	None	None
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)	Blood test or oral swab	Blood test or oral swab
Gonorrhea	Urine or Cervical swab	Urine or Cervical swab
Trichomonas–vaginal infection	None	Vaginal swab
Hepatitis B	Blood Test (Initial test is \$14.50)	Blood Test (Initial test is \$14.50)
Hepatitis C	Blood Test (\$17.25)	Referral
Syphilis	Blood Test	Blood test or specimen

(Prices subject to change without notice)

Every sexual encounter has varying degrees of risk. A negative “STD screen” does not eliminate risk for a sexually transmitted infection. If you are concerned about your risk for contracting an STD or have been diagnosed with an STD, we recommend you make an appointment with an SHS health educator to discuss ways to reduce your risk of negative consequences.