



HOT TOPIC

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CHLAMYDIA TESTING FOR SEXUALLY ACTIVE WOMEN AGED 16-24

The USPSTF recommends screening for chlamydia in sexually active women age 24 years and younger and in older women who are at increased risk for infection. With chlamydia being the most common bacterial sexually transmitted disease (STD) in the United States (most prevalent among women aged 15-24), you should be providing or recommending chlamydia screenings to all sexually active patients ages 24 and younger who have an increased risk.

The majority of women who have chlamydia do not experience symptoms, therefore do not seek out medical advice. Diagnosing chlamydia early can prevent pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), infertility, and ectopic pregnancy; all of which have high rates of occurrence among women with an untreated chlamydia infection).

Highmark provides coverage at little or no cost for chlamydia screening for sexually active members of any age as long as the service is covered under the member's benefit plan. Testing is covered under Highmark's **2020 Pediatric and Adolescent Preventive Health Guidelines, Ages 7-18** and **Adult Preventive Health Guidelines, Ages 19-64**. Preventive Health Guidelines and educational materials were developed to support and inspire members to be proactive in managing their health.

Helpful Resources

Preventive Health Guidelines and educational materials are available on the Provider Resource Center emphasizing the importance of health prevention, screening, and the potential risks of not being screened.

- **Preventive Health Guidelines**
 - Go to **Education/Manuals**
 - Click **Preventive Health Guidelines**
 - Select the appropriate age group
- **Chlamydia Brochure**
 - Go to **Education/Manuals**
 - Click **Educational Resources – Member and Provider**
 - Select **Chlamydia Brochure** under **Information, Trackers and Tools**

Materials on the Educational Resources - Member and Provider tab can be ordered for your patients and office via the embedded hyperlink at the top of the page.