

Sexual Health

BLOOD		INCUBATION PERIOD	SAMPLE SITE
Syphilis	Bacterial	9–21 days, but up to 90 days	Blood
Herpes Simplex Virus I/II	Viral	IgG 4–6 weeks after exposure IgM 5–35 days after exposure, after which test IgG	Blood Blood
HIV	Viral	Usually 10–90 days, but up to 180 days	Blood Blood
Hep B	Viral	Usually 45–180 days, average of 60–90 days	Blood Blood
Hep C Ab	Viral	Usually 9–180 days, average of 45–65 days	Blood Blood
Chlamydia CT	Bacterial	1–3 weeks, up to 6 weeks	Urine Cervix/Vagina Cervix/Vagina
Gonorrhoea GC	Bacterial	2–7 days, up to 1 month	Urine Cervix/Vagina Cervix/Vagina Cervix/Vagina
CT/GC Combined	Bacterial	1–3 weeks, up to 6 weeks	Urine Cervix/Vagina Cervix/Vagina Rectum Throat
Mycoplasma genitalium	Bacterial	Symptoms develop at 1–3 weeks	Urine GU Site Cervix/Vagina
Ureaplasma urealyticum	Bacterial	Symptoms develop at 1–3 weeks	Urine GU Site Cervix/Vagina
Trichomonas vaginalis	Parasitic	4–28 days, many patients are asymptomatic carriers	Urine GU Site Cervix/Vagina
Gardnerella vaginalis	Bacterial	Imbalance of normal flora	Urine GU Site Cervix/Vagina
Bacterial Vaginosis (BV)	Bacterial	Imbalance of normal flora	Cervix/Vagina
Herpes Simplex Viral I/II	Viral	2–14 days, testing is most appropriate for patients with symptomatic lesion(s)	Herpes lesion
Human Papillomavirus	Viral	HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection – usually asymptomatic	Cervical cells Cells/papilloma from site (throat/penile/anal)
Genital warts	Viral	Weeks/ months after exposure	GU Warts
Syphilis/Herpes	Bacterial/ Viral	Whenever active lesions are present	Symptomatic lesion