

Where can I get tested for STDs?

The LA County Department of Public Health has health centers that provide free and low-cost services to those who have no insurance or regular health care provider.

Antelope Valley

Antelope Valley Public Health Center
335-B East Avenue K6
Lancaster, CA 93535
(661)-471-4861

East Los Angeles

Whittier Public Health Center
7643 S. Painter Avenue
Whittier, CA 90602
(562) 464-5350

Metropolitan Los Angeles

- Central Public Health Center
241 N. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 288-8204
- Hollywood/Wilshire Public Health Center
5205 Melrose Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90038
(323) 769-7800

San Fernando Valley

North Hollywood Public Health Center
5300 Tujunga Avenue
North Hollywood, CA 91601
(818) 766-3982

San Gabriel Valley

Pomona Public Health Center
750 S. Park Avenue
Pomona, CA 91766
(909) 868-0235

South Los Angeles

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Public Health
11833 South Wilmington Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90059
(323) 568-8100
- Ruth-Temple Public Health Center
3834 S. Western Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90062
(323) 730-3507

South Bay

- Curtis R. Tucker Public Health Center
123 W. Manchester Blvd.
Inglewood, CA 90301
(310) 419-5325
- Torrance Public Health Center
711 Del Amo Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90502
(310) 354-2300

West Los Angeles

Simms/Mann Health and Wellness Center
2509 Pico Blvd. Rm. 325
Santa Monica, CA 90405
(310) 998-3203

Website: www.GetProtectedLA.com

STD Hotline: 1-800-758-0880

Clinic Resource for Youth: pocketguidela.org

STD Clinics: publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp/STDclinics.htm

Find a clinic →



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health

STD Facts

Sexual health is in
your hands.



(Continued) →

DHSP-STD-0036-01 (09/13/19)

What are Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)?

STDs are infections that are passed during sex. You can get an STD from having vaginal, oral or anal sex with someone who has an STD. People who get certain types of STDs may be more likely to get Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STDs are common: 1 in 2 people will get an STD by the age of 25.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many people with STDs have no signs at all. You can't tell if someone has an STD just by looking at them. STDs can still be passed even if there are no signs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If not treated, STDs can lead to serious health problems for both you and your baby if you're pregnant. You may also be unable to get pregnant.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most STDs can be cured with medicine. Some STDs have no cure, but treatment is available.

What are the signs of infection?

The most common symptom of an STD infection is **nothing at all**. If signs do appear, they may include:

- **Discharge (drip or flow).** Males may have a white, yellow or green drip from the penis. Females may have a change in color or smell of the flow from the vagina. Discharge from your anus (butt) may also be a sign of an STD.
- **Sores and bumps.** Sores, bumps, blisters or rashes on or near your penis, vagina, anus or mouth may be from an STD. Sores may be a sign of herpes or syphilis. Skin-colored bumps could be genital warts.
- **Itching and burning.** Itching around your penis, vagina or other areas may be a sign of crabs (pubic lice). Itching around the vagina may also be a sign of vaginitis. If you have an STD it may also burn when you pee.
- **Rash.** Scabies can cause itching all over the body. A body rash could also be a sign of syphilis or acute HIV.
- **Pain in the lower belly.** In females, belly pain, fever, bleeding between periods, or pain during sex can be a sign of Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID).

How can I protect myself from getting STDs?

- **If you have sex, using a latex condom every time is the best way to protect yourself from STDs.** Learn how to use condoms the right way. However, keep in mind that some STDs can be passed even while you're using a condom.
- **Limit your number of sex partners.** The more people you have sex with, the greater your chances of getting an STD. Not having sex at all is safest.
- **Talk to your partners.** Discuss condoms and health status before having sex.
- **Check for signs.** Talk about STDs *before* you have sex. Check yourself and your partner for common signs of STDs. Don't have sex if you or your partner have any signs. **Get tested.**
- **Get regular check-ups.** You can have an STD without any signs. Get checked every six months if you change partners, have more than one partner, or if your partner may be having sex with anyone else. Ask your partner to get a check-up too!
- **Talk to your doctor** and find out if pre-exposure prophylaxis (**PrEP**) is a good option for you to prevent HIV infection. If you have an STD, your doctor may give you medicine for your partner called patient delivered partner therapy (PDPT).