

**LOCAL ENHANCED SERVICE
for
CHLAMYDIA SCREENING AND TREATMENT IN PRIMARY
CARE**

Service Level Agreement

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INTRODUCTION

All practices are expected to provide essential services those additional services they are contracted to provide to all their patients. They are also encouraged to provide the Directed, National and Local Enhanced services to the wider populations. The specification for this service is designed to cover the enhanced aspects of clinical care of the patient, which is beyond the scope of essential services.

Chlamydia is currently the currently the commonest curable sexually transmitted infection in England. The consequences of chlamydial infection can be severe, particularly for women in whom infection may lead to pelvic inflammatory disease, ectopic pregnancy, tubal factor infertility and chronic abdominal pain.

Primary Care offers a convenient, easily accessible location for people wanting information, screening and treatment for Chlamydia, especially in areas of social deprivation and high health need.

SERVICE OUTLINE AND AIMS

The aim of this Local Enhanced Service is to –

- To increase knowledge and awareness, especially among young people, of the National Chlamydia Screening Programme, whereabouts of screening facilities, and availability of treatment for Chlamydia.
- To increase the uptake of screening and treatment (if appropriate) for Chlamydia by young people who have had unprotected sex, and/or a new partner, and thus help contribute to a reduction in the prevalence of the infection and its medical complications.

The specific objectives of this LES are –

- Improve access to 'self administrated' screening kits
- Promote the use of screening kits and increase the number of test samples returned for analysis.
- Improve access to treatment for Chlamydia where a positive screening result is obtained.
- Encourage partner notification, screening and treatment where patients have a positive result themselves.

CRITERIA

This Local Enhanced Service Specification details the following criteria –

- Participating General Practice staff will promote the use of, and supply 'self administrated' Chlamydia screening kits to appropriate asymptomatic patients aged under 25 years old.
- Whenever a kit is supplied from a participating General Practice the client will be informed about the use of the kit, how results are provided and what to do if a positive result is obtained.
- If appropriate, practices will supply an appropriate NHS prescription in order to treat patients found to be positive for Chlamydia. Practices will not be required to treat unregistered patients.
- The South Staffordshire Chlamydia Screening Programme (Be Clear) will undertake all partner notification procedures.
- Practices will offer a patient-focused, easily accessible, non-judgmental and confidential service.
- If appropriate, general practices will provide information about other local sexual health screening, treatment and advice services.

SERVICE STANDARDS

The contractor in signing this agreement shall:

Promoting the use of Chlamydia screening kits and supplying them to appropriate individuals.

- Young people aged under 25 years old will be targeted for the provision of this service. Appropriate clients will then be offered a free 'self administration' Chlamydia screening kit.
- General Practice staff will encourage young people to use the testing kit and an explanation of the testing process will be given, including information on how results are provided back to the client.
- Each test **received at the screening centre will attract a fee of £10** to cover the time spent counselling the client prior to supply. (The kits will be supplied free of charge to the General Practice, via the local Chlamydia Screening Programme).

Part 2 – Supplying treatment for clients who receive a positive result from their chlamydia-screening test.

- The young person must be under 25 years old unless attending as an identified sexual contact of someone found to be chlamydia positive that is under 25 yrs old. Patients with a positive chlamydia test will be directed to their own registered practice.

- The client must be competent to give informed consent to treatment.
- If the client is aged 16 or under they must be assessed for competence using the Fraser Guidance, the Child Protection Act and Sexual Offences Act.
- Partner notification will be undertaken via the South Staffordshire Chlamydia Screening Programme (Be Clear Service).
- In reference to child protection, practices may need to share relevant information with other health care professionals and agencies.

The PCT shall:

- Review and update the service specification as required
- Audit service provision.
- Ensure payment to contractors for the service provided.

ONGOING MEASUREMENT & EVALUATION

The services provided and scope of this LES will be reviewed with the practice as part of the annual contract monitoring process.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

This agreement is to cover the period commencing 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010.

- The General practices that provide the service will be eligible for a client fee, for each test received at the screening centre.
- The payment is calculated to cover the cost of providing chlamydia testing and providing an understanding of the testing process.
- Current payment is £10 per screening kit received at the screening centre.

Practice Name:

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This document constitutes the agreement between the practice and the PCT in regards to this Local Enhanced Service, as specified.

The practice needs to sign and to agree to the following as set out in this protocol.

Signature on behalf of the Practice:

Signature	Name	Date	Job Title/Position

Signature on behalf of the PCT:

Signature	Name	Date	Job Title
	Darrell Jackson		Primary Care Manager

The agreement is to cover the 12 months commencing 1st April 2009.