



PCA How-To Guide: NQF 0033

Chlamydia Screening in Women

Who

This measure evaluates the percentage of sexually active women, 16-24 years of age, tested for chlamydia

What

To meet the measure:

Provide annual chlamydia screenings to sexually active women, ages 16-24.

Why

- 1 in 4 sexually active adolescents have an STD, and chlamydia is the most common.
- Untreated chlamydia can cause pelvic inflammatory disease and infertility due to increased cervical ectopy.
- Chlamydia usually causes no external symptoms to the patient, resulting the patient being ware that she has it.
- Chlamydia also places the individual at increased risk of other STDs due to the patient's columnar cells being more susceptible to infection.
- Chlamydia is easily cured with antibiotics.

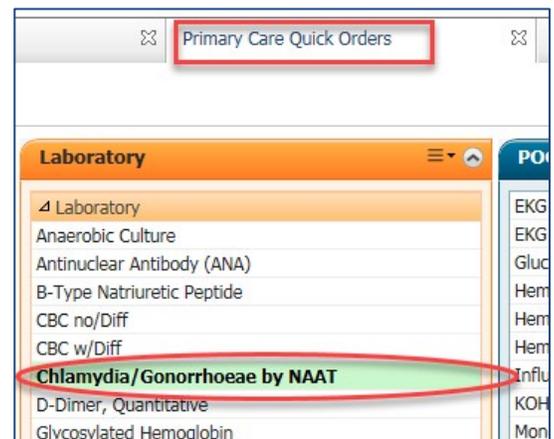
<https://www.cdc.gov/std/stats14/adol.htm>

How

Ordering Chlamydia Screening:

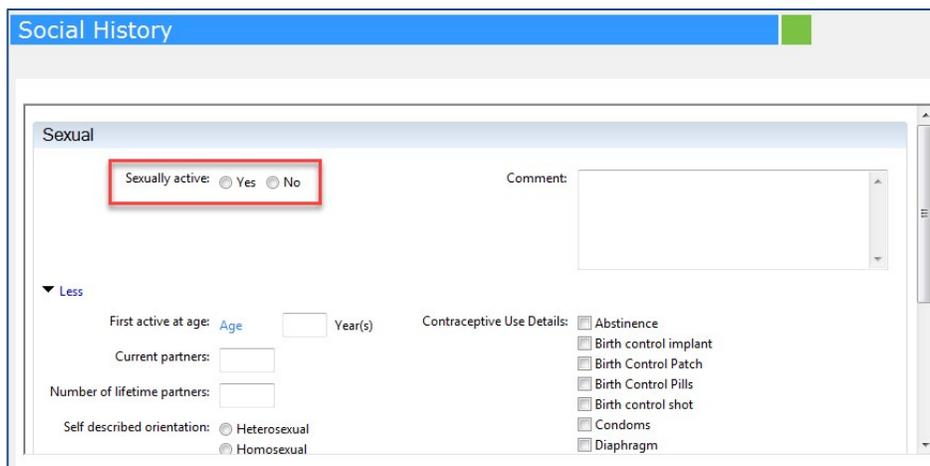
Chlamydia testing can be ordered via the Primary Care and OB/GYN Quick Orders pages.

Be sure to specify the Specimen type (urine, endocervical, etc.).



Documenting Sexual Activity:

Documentation of Sexual History can be performed in the **Social History** section of the Adult, OB, and Pediatric Intake forms.



The screenshot shows a software interface for documenting social history. The main title is "Social History". Below it, there is a section titled "Sexual". In this section, the "Sexually active:" field has two radio buttons: "Yes" and "No". The "No" radio button is selected. To the right of this field is a "Comment:" text area. Below the "Sexual" section, there is a "Less" dropdown menu. Underneath, there are several fields: "First active at age:" with a blue "Age" label and a "Year(s)" input box; "Current partners:" with an input box; "Number of lifetime partners:" with an input box; "Self described orientation:" with two radio buttons: "Heterosexual" (selected) and "Homosexual"; and "Contraceptive Use Details:" with a list of checkboxes: "Abstinence", "Birth control implant", "Birth Control Patch", "Birth Control Pills", "Birth control shot", "Condoms", and "Diaphragm".

FAQ

Q: What “counts” as sexually active?

A: Any claim or encounter indicating sexual activity. For instance, a pregnancy test would count UNLESS it were only to determine contraindications for medication (isotretinoin) or x-ray. 

Q: Will the chlamydia screen show up on the EOB sent to the parents and endanger the teen’s confidentiality?

A: While many EOB’s use generic terminology for lab work, and Medicaid NC does not send an EOB, maintaining complete confidentiality for adolescents is a valid concern. Dialogue with both parents and teens explaining that chlamydia screening is a routine test recommended for all adolescents is one tact a provider might take at a Well Child exam or having an office workflow where this is an “opt out” test at physical exams is another approach.

