

Sexually Transmissible Infections

Treatment is good/prevention is best



What we all need to know

Everyone who is having sex needs to know about sexually transmissible infections (STIs) and how best to protect against them. The consequences of STIs can be very serious for ourselves and anyone we have sexual contact with.

You really do need to know what STIs are, the effects they can have, how you can prevent them and how to tell if you've got one or not. Then you need to know how they can be treated.

Many people feel a mixture of fear and anger if they think they have an STI. It's common to feel shame or guilt as well. Because these can be strong feelings some people decide to avoid the issue. Embarrassment can also stop people getting help.

The time to get advice, reassurance or treatment is as early as possible.

Doctors treat these problems all the time...and information about you is always kept confidential.

Waiting and worrying is always a bad idea because even if the symptoms go away, you can still have the STI and pass it on to others.

Special clinics offer excellent care and advice. Go to the end of this booklet to find one near you.

This booklet answers these questions:

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1. What is a sexually transmissible infection (STI)?

An STI, or STD (sexually transmitted disease), is an infection that can be spread during sexual contact with other people.

Most STIs are caused by tiny micro-organisms such as viruses, bacteria or parasites.

STIs can cause a wide range of problems from mild itching to serious illness with long term effects. If left untreated, some STIs can cause infertility in women and men.

Many STIs have symptoms (such as pain, discharge or swelling) which should be seen by a doctor straight away. However, sometimes there are no obvious signs of infection, so it is important to have a check-up if you think there's a chance you have caught an STI.

The good news

- **Most STIs can be cured.**
- **STIs that cannot be cured can now be managed well.**

2. How do you catch an STI?

You can become infected if you have unprotected sex with someone who already has an STI. 'Unprotected sex' means sex where there is no barrier (such as condoms or dams) to prevent exposure to your partners' body fluids, which can occur with the following sexual activities:

- Vaginal sex (penis in vagina).
- Anal sex (penis in anus).
- Oral sex (penis in mouth or tongue in vagina).
- Oral-anal contact (tongue in anus).
- Fingers or other objects (such as sex toys) in vagina or anus if they have these fluids on them.

Some STIs, such as genital lice and warts, live on the surface of the skin and can be passed to another person through skin to skin contact without sexual penetration.

3. Who do you catch an STI from?

You cannot tell by looking at someone whether they have an STI or not; so if you are having sex without using a condom, you are taking a risk.

Even if you know a person well, you may not be able to tell they have an STI. People can look healthy and strong and still be infected. A person may not realise that they are infected or that they may infect you.

You can get an STI from a new partner who has had unprotected sex with an earlier partner or from a long term partner who has sex with other people.

Also, other behaviours can lead you to risk catching an STI. For example, if you take drugs or drink too much alcohol, your usual judgement is altered and you cannot protect yourself properly. Also, you may get an STI if you are too afraid to use, ask for, or provide condoms.

4. Can I prevent infection?

The basic rule for safe sex is to avoid blood, semen or vaginal fluids of your sexual partner from entering your body, unless you know for sure that your partner is not carrying an STI. Examples of safe sex include kissing, mutual masturbation, sensuous touching and anal or vaginal sex with a condom.

Ways to protect yourself and others:

- Use condoms and water-based lubricants correctly with all partners.
- When sharing sex toys, cover the toy with a new condom for each partner.
- Be monogamous—that is, only have sex with your regular partner.
- Be celibate—that is, don't have sex.

Unprotected sex with a regular partner can be safe if:

- both of you are fully tested and clear of all STI infections; and
- neither of you has sex with anyone else; and
- if you need protection from pregnancy, you use some other form of contraception.

Talk to your partner openly about your sexual relationship and be aware that you have a right to insist on safe sex. If you both agree that it is OK to have sex with other people, it is important that you both practise safe sex with each other and all sexual partners.

5. How do I choose condoms?

You should choose carefully when buying condoms and always check the expiry date on the packet. Do not use condoms which have expired.

Be aware of novelty condoms and check the packaging to ensure that they are suitable for safe sex.

Condoms should feel comfortable, but snug, and should unroll easily all the way to the base of the penis. When choosing condoms the width is important. A number of sizes are available and you may need to try different sizes or brands. Condoms can be uncomfortable or can tear or break when they are the wrong size.

6. How do I use condoms correctly?

Always:

- Store condoms in a cool dry place away from direct sunlight.
- Only use condoms before their expiry date.
- Open the packet carefully and in a good light, so that you do not tear the condom. Pinch the tip of the condom and roll it carefully all the way down the shaft of the erect penis.
- Use plenty of water-based lubricant, especially for anal sex. Sex without lubricants may cause the condom to tear. Do not use spit as a lubricant. Do not use oil-based lubricants like petroleum jelly or baby oil, which weaken the condom.
- Make sure the penis is withdrawn before erection is lost, so that the condom does not fall off. Hold the base of the condom during withdrawal to prevent spills.
- Do not reuse condoms. Dispose of them in a rubbish bin.

7. What other protection is available?

Female condoms are also available and should be used with lubricants. While female condoms are more expensive and not as widely available, some couples prefer to use female condoms. You can contact Family Planning Victoria on 03 9257 0100 for more information.

Dams are rectangular sheets of latex, which can be used to cover the vagina or anus during oral sex. Use a new dam for each oral sex act, as you would a condom. Do not use dams as protection for anal or vaginal sex. Dams are available at most pharmacies.

8. How can I tell if I have an STI?

Remember STIs can go unnoticed; there may be no signs at all. This is why you must always be careful.

Signs that do occur, may be:

- An unusual discharge of fluid from the penis or vagina.
- Pain or irritation when urinating or during sex.
- Difficulty urinating.
- Sores, blisters, ulcers, warts, lumps or rashes anywhere near the genitals or anus.
- Itchiness or irritation in the genital or anal area.
- Vaginal bleeding after sex.

9. What should I do if I think I may have an STI?

If you think you may have an STI, see a doctor straight away.

Do not wait and see. Hoping it will disappear will only delay treatment or reassurance. The symptoms and signs might go away but that does not mean the problem has gone or that you cannot infect others.

If you have symptoms that could be caused by an STI, it is better to avoid sex until after you have seen a doctor so you do not pass it on. If you do have sex, you must use a condom.

10. You are in charge of your body

Remember that your body is yours...to respect, care for and enjoy!

No one knows your body as well as you do and no one has the right to abuse it.

Caring for yourself means knowing when and how to say no. If this is difficult for you, contact one of the agencies listed at the back of this brochure for advice.

11. What about alcohol, drugs and STIs?

Alcohol and drugs can cause people to lower or even forget the standards they set for themselves. While intoxicants (such as alcohol or drugs) do not cause STIs they can create a situation where you are less able to maintain safe conditions for yourself. It is more difficult to think things through if you are drunk or stoned, so try to keep safe habits with the help of friends you trust.

Part of safe sex is making sure that what you do and who you do it with are things that **you decide**.

12. What are the most common STIs?

Chlamydia

Chlamydia is one of the most common STIs in Australia, especially among young people.

Cause

A bacterium called *Chlamydia trachomatis*.

Chlamydia infects the neck of the womb (cervix) in women and the tube inside the penis (urethra) in men. Sometimes it can infect the throat and anus of either sex.

If left untreated, chlamydia can cause pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) in women which can lead to chronic pain and/or the inability to get pregnant.

Symptoms

Women may have no signs or symptoms with chlamydia. Sometimes there is an unusual vaginal fluid (discharge) or a burning sensation when urinating or vaginal bleeding after sex. Deep pain during vaginal sex may also be a sign of chlamydial infection in women.

Men may have no signs or symptoms either. There may be a white or clear fluid (discharge) from the penis and/or discomfort during urination.

How is it spread?

Chlamydia is spread by having vaginal or anal sex without a condom, with someone who has chlamydia. It can also be spread by oral sex.

Treatment

Because chlamydia can be in the mouth/throat, anus, or penis/vagina, your doctor may ask you for samples from more than one area of your body. Taking samples is painless and usually involves you urinating into a cup or swabbing the area with a cotton swab.

If noticed early, chlamydia can be treated with a single dose of antibiotic. Complicated chlamydial infections and PID in women may need longer courses of antibiotics.

Partners of people with chlamydia also need to be treated as they may also be infected. If they are not treated you can get re-infected.

Prevention

Always use condoms for vaginal, anal and oral sex (penis in mouth). Use dams for oral sex (tongue in vagina, tongue in anus) to cover the vagina or anus.

Genital herpes

Cause

Herpes is caused by the herpes simplex virus (HSV) which can also cause cold sores on the mouth.

Symptoms

An outbreak can vary from one small split or cut in the skin of the genital area, to clusters of small blisters on the penis or vulva (lips of the vagina). Herpes can also affect the anal and buttocks area.

Tingling or itchiness in the genital area can indicate the start of an episode. Blisters may then appear and they can turn into ulcers that usually heal in 7–10 days.

Sometimes there is pain or flu-like symptoms.

Often there are no signs at all at the time of infection but episodes can occur later or the infection can spread to others.

How is it spread?

HSV is spread during skin to skin contact or through any kind of vaginal, oral or anal sex. Cold sores can sometimes spread from the mouth to the genitals during oral sex.

Even when there are no obvious sores or signs of infection, the virus can still be passed on.

Treatment

The herpes virus cannot be cured but it can be treated and controlled.

See a doctor as soon as any signs appear. Treatment for severe or very frequent episodes includes antiviral tablets that can ease symptoms and reduce further episodes.

Antiviral treatment can also be used to help prevent spread to sexual partners.

Taking good care of your general health and lowering your stress levels can be helpful. Some people also use alternative therapies.

Prevention

- Avoid sex during an episode because there is more virus on the skin during an episode. Watch for signs such as tingling and itching, which come just before the blisters appear.
- Condoms help but they are not 100 per cent effective because they will only stop the spread from the skin covered by the condom. Using dams for oral sex (tongue in vagina, tongue in anus) may be an option if they cover the blisters/ulcers.
- Antiviral treatment may help prevent spread to sexual partners.

Human Papillomavirus (genital warts and cervical cancer)

Cause

Genital (and anal) warts are caused by a virus called the human papillomavirus (HPV). Some strains of HPV are also known to cause certain forms of cervical, genital and anal cancer. HPV infection is one of the most common STIs in Australia.

Symptoms (warts)

This virus can cause warts in the genital and anal area. These are small, painless cauliflower-shaped or flat lumps on the skin that may be so small you cannot see or feel them.

In **women**, warts may appear on the vulva (lips of the vagina), in the vagina or on the cervix, or around the anus.

In **men**, warts may appear on the penis, in the pubic area, around the anus or on the testicles.

Many people have the virus and remain unaware of it because it can be on the skin even when there is no sign of warts at all. Women often only discover the infection when they get the results of a Pap test.

How is HPV spread?

Usually through genital to genital contact. Spread by oral sex is rare.

Treatment (warts)

Visible genital warts can be treated using various methods; freezing, chemical paint or cream are the most common. Removal of warts does not mean that the virus has been eliminated. The virus can remain on the skin even where no warts can be seen.

Prevention

HPV infection can be prevented through vaccination for HPV before exposure to the virus or by barrier methods.

There is a safe, effective vaccine to prevent infection by certain strains of HPV. Any doctor or clinic can arrange HPV vaccination. HPV vaccination is also provided to girls through a school vaccination program.

Condoms for vaginal, anal and oral sex (penis in mouth) will lower the risk of spreading HPV but they cannot totally prevent infection during intimate sexual contact because some areas of skin are not covered by the condom. Using dams for oral sex (tongue in vagina, tongue in anus) may be an option if they cover the warts.

Sexually active women should have regular Pap tests every two years to detect any signs of infection on the cervix as there is a link between some strains of HPV and cervical cell changes and cancer.

Gonorrhoea

Cause

Gonorrhoea is caused by a bacterium called *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*.

If left untreated, gonorrhoea can cause pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) in women which can lead to chronic pain and/or the inability to get pregnant.

Symptoms

Infection with gonorrhoea may have no signs or symptoms. If symptoms do occur they are:

- In **men**, a discharge (pus) from the penis and/or a burning sensation when urinating.
- In **women**, an unusual discharge from the vagina or pain when urinating. Women may feel deep abdominal pain during vaginal sex.
- Gonorrhoea can also infect the anus and the throat usually without any symptoms at all.

How is it spread?

By unprotected vaginal, anal or oral sex.

Treatment

Men are tested by a swab or urine test from the penis or a swab from the anus or throat.

Women are tested using a urine test or a swab from the cervix, anus or throat.

Gonorrhoea is treated with antibiotics. A follow-up swab is taken to make sure the infection is gone.

Prevention

Always use condoms for vaginal, anal and oral sex (penis in mouth). Use dams for oral sex (tongue in vagina, tongue in anus) to cover the vagina or anus.

Hepatitis B

Cause

Hepatitis B is a virus that infects the liver.

The term 'hepatitis' means inflammation of the liver and there can be causes other than viruses. There are other hepatitis viruses including hepatitis A, C, D, and E. Hepatitis A, B and C are more common.

Symptoms

Some people infected with hepatitis B may have no symptoms at all, while others may contract a severe illness with jaundice (yellowing of eyes and skin), fever, loss of appetite, tiredness and pain in the joints. In extreme cases hepatitis can cause serious liver damage.

Generally the illness lasts for a few weeks and passes eventually with rest. Most people are then immune and protected from getting the disease again.

Up to 10 per cent of people who get the virus will have it for life. These people develop a long-term hepatitis B infection and they can pass it on to others even though they may not know they have the disease.

People with long-term hepatitis B may develop liver damage or liver cancer later in their life.

How is it spread?

Hepatitis B is found in the blood, semen, vaginal fluid and breast milk of an infected person.

It can be passed to another person through:

- Vaginal, anal or oral sex without a condom.
- Sharing any personal injecting equipment. Drug users are particularly at risk.
- Tattooing and body piercing equipment that has not been sterilised properly.
- A woman with long-term hepatitis B may pass the infection to her baby during pregnancy, childbirth, or when breastfeeding.

Treatment

There is no cure for hepatitis B, however, there are new treatments available for people who are infected.

Prevention

There is a safe, effective vaccine to prevent hepatitis B. This usually involves two or three injections over six months. Any doctor or clinic can arrange hepatitis B vaccination.

Always use condoms for vaginal, anal and oral sex (penis in mouth). Use dams for oral sex (tongue in vagina, tongue in anus) to cover the vagina or anus.

Do not share any drug injecting equipment, including spoons, tourniquets and water.

If you are exposed to hepatitis B, your doctor can give you treatment, which greatly reduces the risk of becoming infected but treatment must start within a few days of exposure.

HIV and AIDS

Cause

HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus.

AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

Someone who is HIV positive carries the HIV virus. AIDS can occur 5-10 years after being infected with the virus. By then the HIV virus has usually damaged a person's immune system and they start getting sick from other infections or cancers.

Symptoms

Not everybody gets symptoms, however, early HIV symptoms can include symptoms such as fever, night sweats and swollen glands in the neck, armpits and groin.

There may be no further signs or symptoms for years.

Weight loss, tiredness, recurrent fever, swollen glands, dry cough, diarrhoea and decreased appetite may be signs of HIV infection developing into AIDS but all these symptoms may also be caused by infections other than HIV.

HIV is usually detected by a blood test that checks for HIV antibodies. These antibodies show that the body's immune system is trying to fight the virus.

How is it spread?

HIV is found in the blood (including menstrual blood), semen, vaginal fluid and breast milk of an HIV positive person.

It can be passed to another person through:

- Sharing injecting equipment and needles.
- Unprotected vaginal or anal sex.
- Unprotected oral sex.

- Blood products in countries that do not screen for HIV.
- From a mother who has HIV to a child during pregnancy, birth or via breastfeeding.

In Australia, all blood products have been screened since 1985. This means that blood transfusions in this country are extremely low risk.

HIV cannot be spread by everyday activities such as shaking hands, sharing a cup, using toilet seats, through saliva or at swimming pools.

Treatment

There is no vaccine or cure for HIV.

There are new combinations of drugs to help manage HIV and increase the time a person remains well.

Many people also find alternative and complementary therapies helpful to improve their wellbeing.

Prevention

Always use condoms for vaginal, anal and oral sex (penis in mouth). Use dams for oral sex (tongue in vagina, tongue in anus) to cover the vagina or anus.

Do not share needles or injecting equipment.

Syphilis

Cause

Syphilis is caused by a bacterium called *Treponema pallidum*.

Symptoms

People often have no symptoms. Syphilis usually has three stages:

- Primary Syphilis: 10 days–3 months after initial infection. A painless sore (chancere) usually on the genital area which heals spontaneously within 2–6 weeks.
- Secondary Syphilis: 2–8 weeks (variable) after the appearance of the chancere. Symptoms can include swollen glands and a rash (especially on the soles of the feet and palms of the hands).
- Tertiary Syphilis: may occur many years later. There may be no symptoms for many years but may eventually cause serious problems in the brain, heart or skin.

How is it spread?

Unprotected vaginal, anal or oral sex with someone who has infectious syphilis. It can also be spread during pregnancy from an infected woman to the developing foetus.

Treatment

If treated early and appropriately, syphilis can be easily cured by penicillin injections or tablets. The duration and intensity of treatment depends on the stage of infection.

Prevention

- Avoid sex if either partner has infectious syphilis.
- Always use condoms for vaginal, anal and oral sex (penis in mouth). Use dams for oral sex (tongue in vagina, tongue in anus) to cover the vagina or anus. Avoid contact with any sores (chancres). Condoms are not 100 per cent effective because they will only stop the spread from the skin covered by the condom. Using dams for oral sex may be an option if they cover the sores.

Trichomonas

Cause

Trichomonas is caused by a parasite called *Trichomonas vaginalis*.

Symptoms

There are usually no noticeable signs. When symptoms do occur they include:

- In **women**, yellow/green discharge with an unpleasant smell and vaginal itching.
- In **men**, there may be discomfort during urination.

How is it spread?

By vaginal sex without a condom. It can also be spread between women when penetrative sex occurs.

Treatment

Trichomonas is diagnosed in women through a swab from the vagina. There is a test for men but it is not as reliable as the test for women.

Trichomonas infection is treatable with an antibiotic.

Prevention

Always use condoms for vaginal sex.

13. Other related diseases

These include genital diseases that may require treatment. They are not necessarily STIs but infection may occur from sexual contact in some cases.

Bacterial vaginosis

Cause

This infection is due to some of the normal bacteria in the vagina greatly increasing in numbers. It is not spread to men.

Symptoms

Some women do not notice symptoms. Any unusual vaginal discharge or smell, particularly after periods or following unprotected sex is a sign that should be checked.

How is it spread?

Bacterial vaginosis is not an STI, however, it is more common in women who are sexually active, including women who have sexual contact with women.

Treatment

A woman can be treated with single dose antibiotics or a vaginal cream.

Hepatitis C

Cause

Hepatitis C is a virus that infects the liver.

The term ‘hepatitis’ means inflammation of the liver and there can be causes other than viruses. There are other hepatitis viruses including hepatitis A, C, D, and E. Hepatitis A, B and C are more common.

Symptoms

Some people infected with hepatitis C notice no signs at first, while others get a mild illness, with fever, loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting, tiredness and pain in the joints.

Sometimes the urine becomes dark in the early stages. The whites of the eyes and skin may turn yellow (jaundice).

All symptoms may go away in a few weeks but this does not mean the infection has gone.

More than 70 per cent of people who get a hepatitis C infection continue to carry it in their blood for life and can pass it on to others.

Some people will develop scarring of the liver or liver cancer later in life.

How is it spread?

- Sharing drug injecting equipment is the most common way people become infected with hepatitis C in Australia.
- A woman infected with hepatitis C may pass the infection to her baby during childbirth.
- People who received blood transfusions in the past in Australia were at some risk of contracting hepatitis C. The risk is extremely low now because blood donations have been screened for the virus since February 1990.
- Tattooing, body piercing, electrolysis or acupuncture equipment which has not been sterilised properly.

- Infected blood coming into contact with open cuts is a less common cause of infection.
- Sharing a toothbrush or razor or any personal item that could puncture the skin and draw blood is risky if it has been used by a person infected with hepatitis C.
- Unprotected sex is a low risk, however the risk may be greater if there is bleeding.

Treatment

It may take two to three months (or sometimes longer) from the time of infection before a blood test can detect antibodies to hepatitis C.

If you have a positive hepatitis C antibody test, specialised laboratories can do an additional test called hepatitis C PCR to determine if the virus is still present in your blood.

There is no vaccine or cure for hepatitis C.

New combination treatment has greatly improved outcomes for people with hepatitis C. These treatments can help decrease inflammation in the liver and can clear the virus in around 50 percent of people.

There are some side effects related to hepatitis C medicines. Some people who have hepatitis C choose to use complementary therapies to manage the side effects of combination medicines.

Prevention

There is no vaccine to prevent hepatitis C at the present time.

Do not share any drug injecting equipment, including spoons, tourniquets or water.

Practice safe sex. Use condoms correctly for vaginal and anal sex when blood may be present. People in long-term stable relationships need to consider and discuss condom use with their doctor.

Do not share personal items such as toothbrushes, razors, nail files or nail scissors, as these may puncture the skin and become contaminated.

Non specific urethritis (NSU)

Cause

This is the term used to describe swelling or inflammation of the urethra after gonorrhoea and chlamydia have been excluded by specific tests. It can be caused by a number of different organisms, including STIs. In some cases, no infection is identified.

Symptoms

Symptoms may include irritation in the urethra, discomfort during urination or, for men, a discharge from the penis.

How is it spread?

NSU is more common in men and can sometimes be transmitted to their partners during unprotected oral, vaginal or anal sex.

Treatment

Usually a course of antibiotics is given. Sometimes partners also need to be treated as they may also be infected. If they are not treated, you can get re-infected.

Prevention

Always use condoms for vaginal, anal and oral sex (penis in mouth). Use dams for oral sex (tongue in vagina, tongue in anus) to cover the vagina or anus.

Pubic lice (or crabs)

Cause

A pubic lice infestation is caused by the crab louse *Phthirus pubis*.

Symptoms

Itchiness in the pubic hair or occasionally in other hairy body parts. A close look may show tiny, crab-like lice.

How is it spread?

Pubic lice is usually passed from person to person where pubic hair (or other hair) touches.

Treatment

If you develop itching in the pubic area, you should see your doctor or clinic nurse. Effective lotions are available from pharmacies and you will not need a prescription.

It is important to tell sexual partners so they can get treatment too.

Prevention

Condoms offer no protection against pubic lice.

Thrush

Cause

Thrush is a fungal infection caused by the increase of a yeast called *Candida albicans*. This yeast is normally found in many areas of the body, including the vagina.

Overgrowth of yeast may develop during antibiotic use, as a result of diabetes, poor immunity or pregnancy, causing the symptoms of thrush.

Symptoms

In **women** symptoms include itchiness of the vaginal lips (vulva) and inside the vagina. A vaginal discharge, often with a 'cottage cheese' appearance, can occur, with or without redness and swelling of the vagina or vulva.

In **men**, there may be a red, blotchy rash on the head (glans) of the penis.

How is it spread?

Thrush is common in sexually active women and can sometimes be transmitted to male partners during sex.

Treatment

Thrush is diagnosed by a swab test. Usual treatment includes antifungal cream or pessaries (tablets which are inserted into the vagina).

14. Where can I get further information or help?

Melbourne Sexual Health Centre

580 Swanston Street

Carlton 3053

Telephone: (03) 9341 6200

TTY for deaf callers: (03) 9347 8619

Country Freecall: 1800 032 017

Website: www.mshc.org.au

All services at the Centre are completely free and confidential.

Staff can give you up-to-date advice on the phone, make an appointment to see you, or give you a referral to doctors in your area who are able to help you.

Statewide services and contacts

HIV & Sexual Health Connect

A free service that provides Victorians with confidential advice and information about HIV & sexual health.

Telephone: 1800 038 125

TTY for deaf callers: 1800 555 677

Interpreter: 13 14 50

Website: www.connectline.com.au

Hep C Infoline

Free information and referral for hepatitis C. This service caters for people with hepatitis C, their friends and family.

Telephone 1800 703 003

Website: www.hepcvic.org.au

Education Resource Centre at The Alfred

HIV, hepatitis and STI information. A free service for all Victorians.

Fairfield House, Moubray Street
Prahran 3181

Telephone: (03) 9276 6993

Website: www.hivhepsti.info

Family Planning Victoria

Clinic and education

901 Whitehorse Road
Box Hill 3128

Telephone: (03) 9257 0100

Website: www.fpv.org.au

Action Centre (for Youth)

Level 1, 92–94 Elizabeth Street
Melbourne 3000

Clinic and education

Telephone: (03) 9660 4700

Freecall: 1800 013 952

Website: www.fpv.org.au

Hepatitis C Victoria

Suite 5, 200 Sydney Road
Brunswick 3056

Telephone: (03) 9380 4644

Country Freecall: 1800 703 003

Website: www.hepcvic.org.au

Gay Men's Health: Victorian AIDS Council/ Gay Men's Health Centre

6 Claremont Street
South Yarra 3141

Telephone: (03) 9865 6700

Freecall: 1800 134 840

Website: www.vicaids.asn.au

The Centre Clinic (Northcote)

42 Separation Street
Northcote 3070

Telephone: (03) 9481 7155

Website: www.vicaids.asn.au

Also located at:

The Centre Clinic (St Kilda)

Rear of 77 Fitzroy Street
St Kilda 3182

Telephone: (03) 9525 5866

Website: www.vicaids.asn.au

Rural STI Clinics

The Annexe Sexual Health Clinic— Ballarat Community Health Centre

710 Sturt Street

Ballarat 3350

Telephone: (03) 5338 4500

Website: www.bchc.org.au

BBV/STI Clinic—Bendigo Community Health Service Inc

3 Seymoure Street

Eaglehawk 3556

Telephone: (03) 5434 4330

Website: www.bchs.com.au

Geelong Sexual Health Clinic

Outpatients, Geelong Hospital

Bellarine Street

Geelong 3220

Telephone: (03) 5226 7489

STD Clinic—Vermont Street Clinic

Wodonga Regional Health Service

79 Vermont Street

Wodonga 3690

Telephone: (02) 6051 7535

STD/AIDS Clinic—Latrobe Regional Hospital

(Outpatient Department)

Consulting Suites 3 and 4,

Cnr Princes Highway & Village Way

Traralgon 3844

Telephone: (03) 5173 8111

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