

Implementing *Opt-Out* Screening

How to Seamlessly Adopt This Strategy in Your Practice

The CDC Recommends Opt-out Screening for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea:¹

- ✓ Annually for young women 15-24 years old
- ✓ Regardless of reported sexual behavior

During Check-in

- ▶ Office staff provide patient a handout that explains chlamydia and gonorrhea testing is part of routine screening at the clinic.

Before Vitals

- ▶ Care team sees an automatic age/gender flag in patient's EMR*, indicating she is in the opt-out screening demographic.
- ▶ Team can direct her to the bathroom while giving her either a self-collect vaginal swab (CDC-preferred) or a urine cup.

During Exam

- ▶ After vitals, health care provider conducts health exam and collects vaginal swab test if needed. If parent is present, the clinician asks them to leave for a private patient conversation.
- ▶ Clinician reviews opt-out screening policy and tells patient how their sample will be used.
- ▶ Clinician notes in EMR whether patient accepted or declined.

When Sharing Results

- ▶ Clinician shares results (via patient portal and, if necessary, by phone), also noting any potential treatment or follow-up needs.

Your practice can reduce missed screening opportunities by adopting CDC's opt-out approach. It's easy and can be cost-saving.

Visit [HologicWomensHealth.com](https://www.hologic.com/womenshealth) for more information



* EMR, electronic medical record.

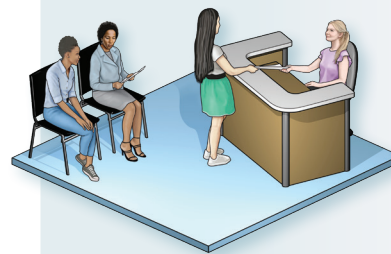
Reference: 1. Workowski, et al. Sexually Transmitted Infections Treatment Guidelines 2021. MMWR Recomm Rep 2021;1-187. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.r7004a1>

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- ✓ Make office hours convenient for teens.



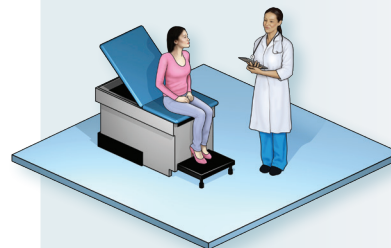
- ✓ Develop and post a policy of confidentiality.
- ✓ Make sure material will fit into a pocket or purse.



- ✓ Normalize conversations around screening.
- ✓ Make free condoms available.



- ✓ Establish a practice-wide policy of time with adolescent without their parent present.
- ✓ Encourage teens to share information with parent or trusted adult.



- ✓ Locate office phones and triage in private areas.

