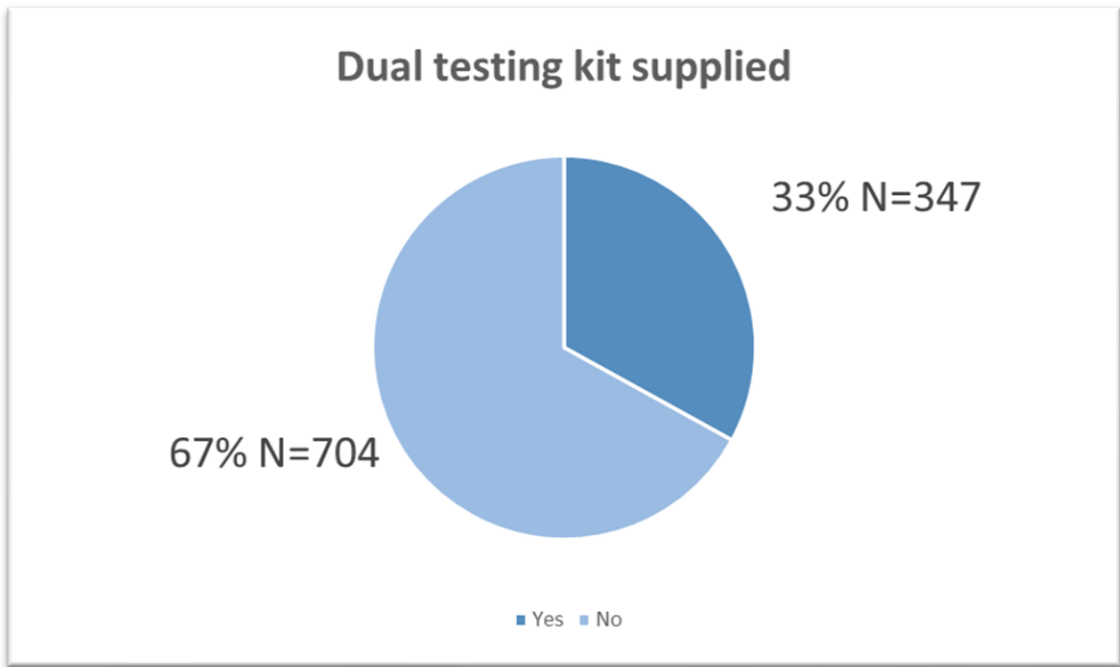


# Sexual Health Update

August 2023

Sexually Transmitted infections (STI's) are continuing to rise in England including Hertfordshire. However, the number of people testing for Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea in primary care settings continues to decline. Some of this could be due to more people accessing free STI kits online, for some they are not aware of what is available locally.

As stated in the Sexual Health Service specification, a dual testing kit should be given to every patient accessing EHC. During April 2022–March 2023, 1051 EHC were administered to women 24 years and under. Of those, 704 interventions resulted in no dual testing kit supplied.



Chlamydia has serious consequences if left untreated, including pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), tubal factor infertility and ectopic pregnancy in women — of those women with untreated chlamydia 10 to 17% will develop PID and 35% of PID in women aged 16 to 24 is attributable to chlamydia.

Although ‘no change of partner’ is given as the main reason for declining a test, it’s important that all patients take a kit away with them. Explaining that its part of the EHC service offered and the benefits of taking the test will increase acceptance.

“As part of our EHC service, we give a dual testing kit for Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea to everyone. If left untreated these infections can cause inflammation and pain in the pelvis, an ectopic pregnancy infertility”.

“ Its important to get tested for Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea if you had unprotected sex. Take this dual testing kit with you. Take the test 2 weeks after you last had unprotected sex”.

# Promoting your service

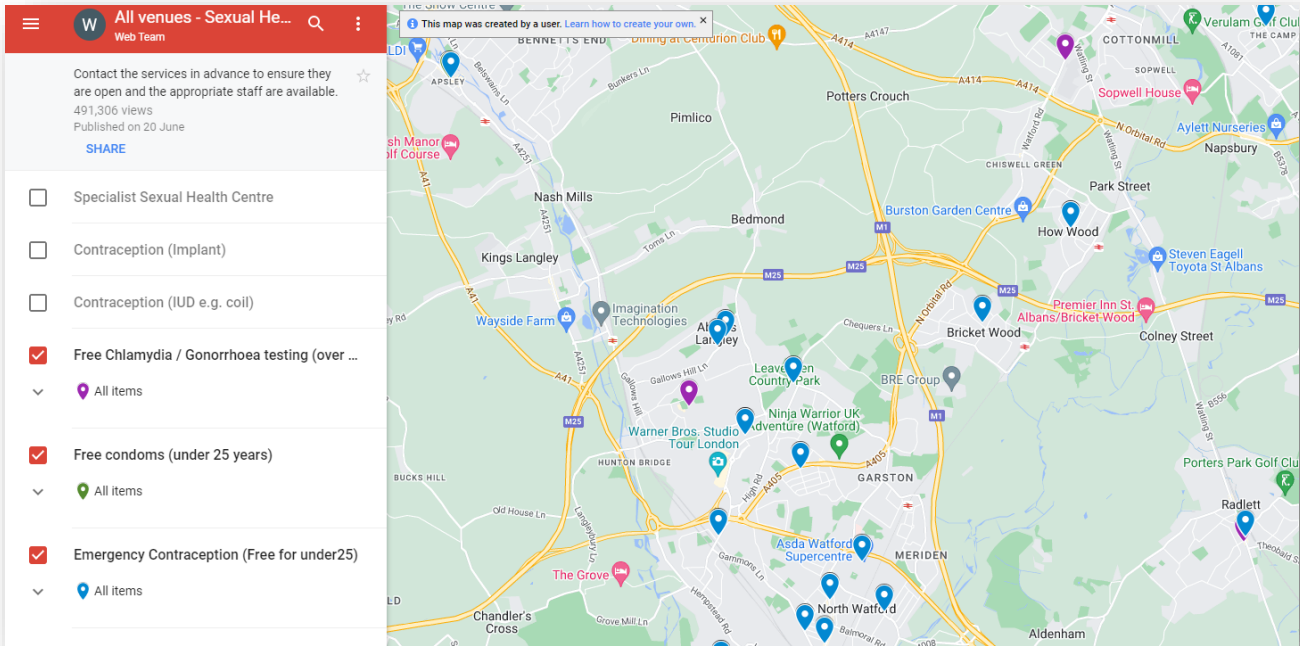
To increase testing uptake, people visiting your pharmacy need to know they can access a dual testing kit. This is beneficial to those who can't travel to a sexual health service or access a test online.

A range of dual testing resources are available to promote in pharmacy and in your Healthy Living Zones. 'Get dual testing' posters and images for social media can be downloaded from: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/dualtestprofessionals](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/dualtestprofessionals) printed copies can be requested from: [sexualhealthhertfordshire@metrocharity.org.uk](mailto:sexualhealthhertfordshire@metrocharity.org.uk)



*'Get Dual Testing' Posters*

The interactive map on the HCC website ([www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/sexualhealth](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/sexualhealth)) lists pharmacies offering EHC, dual testing and condoms wallets. To ensure the map is correct, any changes to services should be reported to the commissioning team: [phcommissioning@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:phcommissioning@hertfordshire.gov.uk)



# Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea Screening

During April -June 2023, 57 dual testing kits issued by the community pharmacies listed below, were returned to the lab. This resulted in 4 positives for Chlamydia and 1 for Gonorrhoea.

- Wellswood Pharmacy
- Grovehill Pharmacy
- Hubert Figg Pharmacy
- Woods Chemist
- Crescent Pharmacy
- Jade Pharmacy
- Jhoots Pharmacy
- Normandy pharmacy
- Quadrant Pharmacy
- Topkins Pharmacy
- Cassiobury Pharmacy
- Chemilab Pharmacy
- FT Taylor

- Trinity Pharmacy
- Boots the Chemist Pharmacy - Letchworth
- Jackmans Pharmacy
- Clayton Pharmacy
- Asda in-store Pharmacy
- Boots Queensway Stevenage
- Asda in-store Pharmacy
- Boots Hatfield
- Johns & Kelynack
- Crescent Pharmacy
- One Stop Pharmacy
- Parade Pharmacy
- Tudorken Pharmacy

EHC			
Pharmacies with 5 or more EHC procedures (April -June 2023) :			
Pharmacy	EHC	Pharmacy	EHC
Johns & Kelynack Pharmacy	52	Abbotswood Park Pharmacy	8
Boots (Hatfield Town Centre)	36	Bedwell Pharmacy	8
Boots (Stevenage Queensway)	22	Asda (Watford)	7
Quadrant Pharmacy	21	Springfield Pharmacy	7
Leavesden Pharmacy	20	Topkins	7
Hubert Figg Pharmacy	15	Warecross Pharmacy	7
Trinity Pharmacy	14	Clayton Pharmacy	6
Asda (Hatfield)	11	Croft Chemist	5
One Stop Pharmacy	11	Jackmans Pharmacy	5
FT Taylor	9	Laxtons Pharmacy	5
Greenlight Pharmacy	9		



# CONDOM WALLETS

As part of the Public Health contract, condom wallets can be offered to people 16 -24 years (or 13 – 15 years old who are deemed to be Fraser competent), including those accessing EHC, Chlamydia/ Gonorrhoea Screening .

Pharmacies were informed late last year, that due to a manufacturing error, the date printed on some blue condom wallets (see below) had expired but the condoms inside were still in date. The condoms can be retained for distribution. However, due to regulations on packaging, the condom wallets should NOT be used and disposed if the date on the wallet has exceeded the expiry date.



A short video on how to use a condoms correctly can be found here [CONDOM](#)

Please check the wallets you have in stock and if needed, action the instructions above to adhere to the regulations.

Since April 2023, Metro Charity will be overseeing the management of the condom wallet scheme and dual testing on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council and Sexual Health Hertfordshire. To reflect this, a new condom wallet has been designed. The previous blue wallet can still be used (in if date).



**New condom design**

If you require more condom wallets, please use the condom wallet order form and email it to [sales@ltchealthcare.co.uk](mailto:sales@ltchealthcare.co.uk) to complete to your request.

If you have any queries about the condom wallet scheme please contact 0208 102 4894 or email [clcht.chlamydia screeningservice@nhs.net](mailto:clcht.chlamydia screeningservice@nhs.net).