

CHLAMYDIA - Pharmacist information

What is Chlamydia?

Chlamydia is a bacterial infection and is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the UK. It is estimated that as many as 1 in 10 individuals are infected with Chlamydia.

In most cases, infected men and women have no symptoms.

Chlamydia is easily treated with a one week course of 100mg Doxycycline twice daily.

If it is not treated it may rarely give rise to problems for women such as Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID)

How do we test for Chlamydia?

Testing can be performed on a urine sample for men or self-taken lower vaginal swab for women.

What is the treatment for Chlamydia?

A one week course of Doxycycline will treat Chlamydia infection.

Even if the individual has no symptoms, treatment is necessary to prevent any possible complications.

It is extremely important that any regular sexual partner(s) are also treated, to prevent the individual becoming re-infected. We advise that following treatment, the individual should not have sex, even with a condom, until 7 days after they and their sexual partner(s) have finished treatment.

Does infection mean that a partner has been unfaithful?

No. Chlamydia can occur in people who are in long-standing relationships as the infection can lie undetected for a very long time.

Is a repeat test needed to be certain that treatment has worked?

No. If the individual has been treated it is not necessary for them to have a repeat test.

If they would like to be retested, then this should be performed 6 weeks after treatment, as sometimes the test can remain positive in the first few weeks.

However chlamydia will be treated after the week long course of Doxycycline

Further information

For further information about chlamydia or testing contact:

Chalmers sexual health clinic (2a Chalmers Street, Edinburgh) and ask to speak to a Health Adviser, Monday – Friday, 9am – 4pm (**Tel 0131 536 2108**)

Sexual Health at Howden, Howden Health Centre – also call Health Adviser at Chalmers

<https://www.lothiansexualhealth.scot.nhs.uk/Pages/default.aspx>

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