

# sextalk.

answers to your questions about sex and relationships

## **factoid** The top 3 STDs at the UA are herpes, chlamydia and genital warts (HPV).

**Q.** I want to get tested for STDs. I heard that Planned Parenthood is expensive. Is there any place in Tucson that is cheap? Please let me know!

**A.** There are many options for STD testing. There are also many different diseases, each requiring a different test. Prices listed below are for Spring 2005 and may change based on eligibility and policies. If you have insurance most fees may be covered. Check your plan.

**UA Campus Health:** Many students like the convenience of an appointment on campus. A doctor or nurse practitioner will discuss sexual history, signs or symptoms, and do an exam, if needed (\$10 copay). The most common tests are HIV and chlamydia/gonorrhea. The HIV blood test costs \$32.50. Chlamydia/gonorrhea can be done with a urine test (\$60) or the less comfortable male urethral swab or female cervical swab (\$30). Herpes Simplex Virus Type I or II antibody test is \$40. If a patient has first time herpes sores, they can be cultured (\$30). Call 621-9202 for an appointment. Call 621-4967 to talk with a health educator. You don't need insurance to be seen at Campus Health.

**Planned Parenthood of Southern Arizona:** There are three PPSAz clinics available in Tucson. Patients with severely limited financial means can be seen on a "sliding scale" (based on income and ability to pay). Waiting times are longest for this clinic. Full-pay prices are: Office visit= \$60, HIV blood test= \$50, Chlamydia= \$10, Gonorrhea= \$15, Herpes antibody test= \$85. The clinic closest to the UA is near Tucson Mall at Wetmore and Oracle Roads. Call 884-5562 for appointments.

**Pima County Health Department:** The Teresa Lee STD clinic runs on a first come-first served basis at 322 S. Freeway (near downtown on the eastbound I-10 frontage road just south of Congress St.). Visits are \$10, which will cover the most common tests (HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis). Herpes antibody testing is extra at \$60. Expect to wait an hour or two. Call 791-7676 for clinic hours.

**Clinics and private offices:** Expect to pay separately for the visit and for each test ordered. Prices vary greatly.

Have a question? Send it to [sextalk@email.arizona.edu](mailto:sextalk@email.arizona.edu)

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