

sextalk.

answers to your questions about sex and relationships

factoid

The Campus Health Service has been accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) since 1978, successfully meeting or exceeding nationally recognized standards of practice.

Q. My partner was tested for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases a few months ago and tested negative. Just to be on the safe side, what type of testing should I get? I've never been tested before and have never shown any signs or symptoms. Also, are there any free or cheap testing centers in town?

A. There are over 25 different STDs and each one requires a specific test and collection procedure (blood, urine, or swab/culture). It is unnecessary and expensive to test for every possible disease. Most students opt for an HIV test as well as a combined gonorrhea/chlamydia urine test. You might also want to include herpes testing. Based on your medical and sexual history you and your health care provider will discuss the most likely organisms for which you should be tested.

Here are some of your STD testing options in Tucson:

Campus Health Service – You can be examined, tested, and treated for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) right on campus in the Highland Commons Building near Highland Ave. & 6th St. Over 1000 UA students sought HIV testing last year at Campus Health. Call 621-9202 to make an appointment.

Planned Parenthood of Southern Arizona – PPSAz offers STD testing by appointment at several locations around Tucson (call 624-1761). You might not know that they offer services for both women and men.

Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) – Located just 1 mile south of campus, SAAF offers HIV testing. SAAF is located at 375 S Euclid Ave. (south of Broadway). Call 628-7223.

Pima County Health Department – If money is a concern and you don't mind traveling a bit further off campus (about 4 miles), the Pima County Health Department offers anonymous HIV & STD testing at the Teresa Lee Clinic at 332 S. Freeway (just west of downtown on the frontage road of I-10). Call 791-7676 to make an appointment. The cost is \$10 for all the tests you might need.

Have a question? Send it to sextalk@email.arizona.edu



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