

sextalk.

answers to your questions about sex and relationships

factoid

April is STD Awareness Month. Many infections have no symptoms. MTV and many health agencies are promoting "GYT": Get Yourself Tested. Go to itsyoursexlife.com/gyt

Q. Can I get tested for STDs at Campus Health? How much does it cost? Will my parents find out?

A. The Campus Health Service (CHS) performs thousands of tests each year for sexually transmitted diseases. The most common STD tests students choose are HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, and herpes. Prior to testing, a doctor or nurse practitioner will discuss your sexual history, signs or symptoms, and do a physical exam, if needed. Call 621-9202 for an appointment. For detailed testing info, go to www.health.arizona.edu and search for "STD testing".

Most insurance plans will reimburse patients for STD testing when ordered by a clinician, so it might not cost you any more than the standard \$15 co-payment. You can be tested at Campus Health, have it billed to your Bursar's account, and then request an itemized statement to submit to any insurance plan for reimbursement. If you have the Aetna Student Health Insurance, lab tests are a covered benefit.

If you don't have insurance, your typical "out of pocket" charges at CHS would be as follows: \$15 "co-pay" per visit; HIV blood test at \$23; chlamydia/gonorrhea urine test at \$60. If you want to know if you have Herpes Simplex Virus, the viral antibody blood test is \$48. If a patient has first time herpes sores, a sample can be cultured for just \$30.*

Students who are enrolled in the UA insurance supplement plan called "Campus Care" pay only a \$15 co-pay. Period. This plan is well worth the \$80 per semester fee, since it covers most expenses (labs, x-rays, doctor visits) for all visits and services provided within CHS. Campus Care includes all laboratory tests, x-rays, medical procedures and supplies as long as the diagnostic work up is initiated at CHS.*

No matter how you pay for your visit to CHS, your parents will not find out unless you tell them yourself. Campus Health honors your right to privacy by keeping your medical records completely confidential. The charge on your Bursars' statement will read "Campus Health". The statement does not indicate what services you received. The only way your parents could find out about the nature of your visits is if you give specific written permission to release your medical records to them.

** Costs based on 04/09 price list (subject to change)*



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

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