Q How many UA students get tested for STIs?

A. A lot! From January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017, over 3,400 UA students got tested for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) at the UA Campus Health Service. Our lab conducted over 4,104 urine tests for chlamydia and gonorrhea and more than 1,800 blood tests for HIV. Over 300 tests for herpes were requested (blood tests or cultures of visible sores). Many students were also tested for Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) during pelvic exams and Pap tests. While Campus Health serves a high proportion of UA students, many students seek testing at their family doctor’s office, at Planned Parenthood, or the Pima County Health Department.

The top three STIs here at the UA are chlamydia (also #1 in the US), HPV, and herpes. Many STIs are asymptomatic, meaning you could have one but not show any symptoms. This is a good reason to get tested if you are sexually active. Most students who come into Campus Health get tested for chlamydia and gonorrhea since these infections rarely have symptoms but can lead to complications if left untreated. You can discuss your testing options with your medical provider. The types of tests ordered will be based upon your sexual history, any visible signs or symptoms, and your partner(s) health history.

Campus Health provides confidential STI testing all year round. Test results cannot be accessed by anyone (parent, partner, professor, coach, other medical providers outside Campus Health) without your written consent. You can even charge your visit to your Bursar’s account and it will show up as “Student Health Charge” on your statement. If you have questions about testing, call (520) 621-4967. For an appointment, call (520) 621-9202.