



# Patient information: postal chlamydia retest

You have recently been treated for a chlamydia infection by your doctor. Up to one quarter of people who have had chlamydia will get another infection (reinfection) within 3-4 months. A retest to check for reinfection is recommended about 3 months after treatment.

One way to retest is for a test kit to be sent to you in the mail. You can then do the test at home and return it to the pathology in the mail.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO GET A POSTAL RETEST KIT SENT TO ME?

**You do not need to do anything.** The kit will come from VCS Pathology. Your doctor will ask you the best address to mail the kit and organise to mail it to you about 10 weeks after your treatment for chlamydia.

## HOW MUCH WILL THE TEST KIT COST?

You will not be charged for the test if you have a Medicare card and sign the Medicare section on the pathology request form.

If you do not have a Medicare card, the test will cost approximately \$36.60. However, don't worry, for international students with private health cover, VCS Pathology will be able to charge most insurers for the test, or you will be able to claim the fee back from your insurer.

VCS Pathology will send a reply-paid envelope so it will not cost you anything to post the completed test.

## WHAT WILL THE POSTAL RETEST KIT ENVELOPE LOOK LIKE?

The envelope will state that it is from VCS Pathology but will not contain details about its contents nor that it is about chlamydia.

## WHERE WILL THE TEST KIT BE SENT?

You can ask your GP to have the test be sent to any address you like.

## WHEN WILL THE TEST ARRIVE, AND WILL I BE REMINDED?

The test will arrive about ten weeks after your chlamydia diagnosis. You will be reminded that the test is coming via SMS, unless you tell your doctor you do not want to receive an SMS reminder.

## HOW DO I TAKE THE TEST?

You will receive instructions with the kit on how to take the test. The test is a vaginal swab or a urine sample depending on your reproductive organs.

## HOW DO I RETURN THE TEST?

The kit will include a pre-paid return envelope. You can return this via any red Australia Post letterbox.

## HOW WILL I KNOW THE TEST RESULT?

VCS Pathology will send the test results to your doctor. You will need to contact your doctor to get the test results.

## Questions? Need a replacement kit?

Please call VCS Pathology toll free on 1800 611 635 if you have questions or need to replace the collection kit.

These details will be included in the instructions sent with the kit.

Disclaimer: This factsheet was developed for the Management of Chlamydia Cases in Australia (MoCCA) study. It is designed to provide you with information on chlamydia postal retesting kits and is not intended to replace the need for a consultation with your doctor. All clients are strongly advised to check with their doctor about any specific questions or concerns. All effort has been taken to ensure the information in this factsheet is correct at the time of printing. CRIOCOS Provider Code 00116K