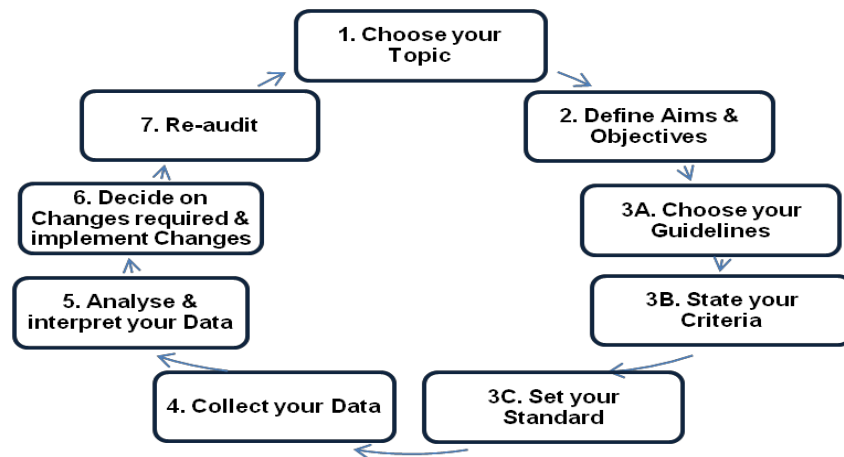




## Sexually Transmitted Infections Sample Audit



### AUTHORS

Dr Miriam Daly

Dr Claire Collins

Reviewed July 2019 by Dr Mary Short

## **Purpose of ICGP sample audits on specific topics**

The purpose of the ICGP sample audit for each topic area is to provide practitioners with audit topic proposals and related tools in order to aid them in carrying out a clinical audit in this topic area. For each topic, a specific guideline is chosen which identifies best practice for the relevant topic. Following this, examples of the elements of care or activity that could be measured are provided – these are referred to as “criteria”. Finally, examples of the type of data that is required in order to audit the sample criteria are provided. A separate document, the ICGP Audit Toolkit, provides detailed generic instructions on how to carry out and report your audit.

### **Sample Audit Topic:** Sexually Transmitted Infections

#### **Disclaimer**

In all instances where ‘your patients’ are referred to, this can be taken to mean the patients you see. Where ‘your practice’ is mentioned, this refers to the work you do, not necessarily that you need to be based in one particular practice.

**Evidence:** Sexually Transmitted Infections in Primary Care, British Association of Sexual Health and HIV and RCGP, 2019.

**Professional Competence Domains:** Clinical Skills  
Management  
Patient Safety and Quality of Care

#### **Sample audit criteria:**

##### **Gonorrhoea if treated in primary care**

**Criteria 1:** The diagnosis is established through NAATs testing at appropriate sites.

**Criteria 2:** All individuals with a NAATs gonorrhoea diagnosis should have cultures taken prior to treatment.

**Criteria 3:** Treatment regime should appropriately match the site of infection.

**Criteria 4:** In a confirmed case of gonorrhoea the sexual partner should be notified and tested.

**Criteria 5:** Screen for other STIs.

**Criteria 6:** Abstain from intercourse for seven days post treatment (client and partner).

**Criteria 7:** All treated cases should have test of cure.

## **Chlamydia Trachomatis (CT)**

**Criteria 8:** Diagnosis with NAATs or 1<sup>st</sup> catch urine as appropriate to the individual.

**Criteria 9:** Partner notification should be instigated and documented.

**Criteria 10:** All sexual partners should be offered full STI screening including HIV and Hepatitis B testing.

**Criteria 11:** Give written information about CT.

**Criteria 12:** Discuss Hepatitis B vaccination.

**Criteria 13:** Test of cure for rectal infections.

**Criteria 14:** Follow up with phone call post treatment to check re: partner notification.

## **Herpes Virus**

**Criteria 15:** Confirm diagnosis by sending a viral swab taken from base of lesion.

**Criteria 16:** All those found positive should be tested for other STIs.

**Criteria 17:** Virus typing should be obtained for all new patients.

## **Asymptomatic STI screen in a woman**

**Criteria 18:** Send endocervical swab or low vaginal swab for NAAT testing. (Rather than urine for NAAT).

Choose the criteria from the above on which to conduct your audit and then set your standard (sometimes known as your target). This is your desired level of performance and is usually stated as a percentage. Beware of setting standards of 100%; standards should be realistic for your practice (perfection may not be possible).

There is no minimum or maximum number of patients stipulated, however your sample should include current/recent patients. In general, if you have a very small number of patients with the condition being considered, it is recommended that you examine a greater number of criteria in these patients. By contrast in an audit of a very large number of patients it may only be necessary to examine one criterion.

**The aim of a Data Collection tool is** to provide examples of the types of data that are required in order to audit each sample criterion.

**Criteria 1: *Gonorrhoea*:** The diagnosis is established through NAATs testing at appropriate sites

**Data Collection Tool** (*the 'recorded' aspect of the criteria*):

- Number of patients with NAAT positive result included in this audit
- Number of above who had culture taken

**Criteria 2: *Gonorrhoea*:** All individuals with a NAATs gonorrhoea diagnosis should have cultures taken prior to treatment

**Data Collection Tool:**

- Number of patients with Gonorrhoea included in this audit
- Number of above who had culture taken

**Criteria 3: *Gonorrhoea*:** Treatment regime should appropriately match the site of infection

**Data Collection Tool:**

- Number of patients with Gonorrhoea included in this audit
- Number of above treated
- Number of above who had a test of cure
- Number of patients treated appropriate to site of infection

**Criteria 4: *Gonorrhoea*:** In a confirmed case of Gonorrhoea the sexual partner should be notified and tested

**Data Collection Tool:**

- Number of patients with Gonorrhoea included in this audit
- Number of above where partner notification instigated

**Criteria 5: *Gonorrhoea*:** Screen for other STIs

**Data Collection Tool:**

- Number of patients with Gonorrhoea included in this audit
- Number of above screened for other STIs

**Criteria 6: *Gonorrhoea*:** Abstain from intercourse for seven days post treatment (client and partner)

**Data Collection Tool:**

- Number of patients with Gonorrhoea included in this audit
- Number of patients advised to abstain

<p><b>Criteria 7:</b> <i>Gonorrhoea</i>: All treated cases should have test of cure</p> <p><b>Data Collection Tool:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of patients with Gonorrhoea included in this audit</li> <li>- Number of above treated</li> </ul>
<p><b>Criteria 8:</b> <i>Chlamydia Trachomatis (CT)</i>: Diagnosis with NAATs or 1<sup>st</sup> catch urine as appropriate to the individual</p> <p><b>Data Collection Tool:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of patients positive for CT included in this audit</li> <li>- Number of above tested for other STIs</li> </ul>
<p><b>Criteria 9:</b> <i>Chlamydia Trachomatis (CT)</i>: Partner notification should be instigated and documented</p> <p><b>Data Collection Tool:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of patients positive for CT included in this audit</li> <li>- Number of above where partner notification has been discussed</li> </ul>
<p><b>Criteria 10:</b> <i>Chlamydia Trachomatis (CT)</i>: All sexual partners should be offered full STI screening including HIV and Hepatitis B testing</p> <p><b>Data Collection Tool:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of patients positive for CT included in this audit</li> <li>- Number of patients where partners have been offered full STI screening</li> </ul>
<p><b>Criteria 11:</b> <i>Chlamydia Trachomatis (CT)</i>: Give written information about CT</p> <p><b>Data Collection Tool:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of patients positive for CT included in this audit</li> <li>- Number of above given written information about CT</li> </ul>
<p><b>Criteria 12:</b> <i>Chlamydia Trachomatis (CT)</i>: Discuss Hepatitis B vaccination</p> <p><b>Data Collection Tool</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of patients positive for CT included in this audit</li> <li>- Number of patients offered advice on Hepatitis B vaccination</li> </ul>
<p><b>Criteria 13:</b> <i>Chlamydia Trachomatis (CT)</i>: Test of cure for rectal infections</p> <p><b>Data Collection Tool</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of patients positive for CT included in this audit</li> <li>- Number of patients offered test of cure</li> </ul>

**Criteria 14:** *Chlamydia Trachomatis (CT)*: Follow up with phone call post treatment to check re partner notification

**Data Collection Tool:**

- Number of patients positive for CT included in this audit
- Number of above followed up post treatment re partner notification
- Number requiring test of cure

**Criteria 15:** *Herpes Virus*: Confirm diagnosis by sending a viral swab taken from base of lesion

**Data Collection Tool:**

- Number of patients suspected of having Herpes Virus included in this audit
- Number of above where diagnosis confirmed by sending a viral swab taken from base of lesion

**Criteria 16:** *Herpes Virus*: All those found positive should be tested for other STIs

**Data Collection Tool:**

- Number of patients positive for Herpes Virus included in this audit
- Number of above tested for other STIs

**Criteria 17:** *Herpes Virus*: Virus typing should be obtained for all new patients

**Data Collection Tool:**

- Number of patients positive for Herpes Virus included in this audit
- Number of patients with virus typing obtained

**Criteria 18:** *Asymptomatic STI screen in a woman*:\_Send endocervical swab or low vaginal swab for NAAT testing (Rather than urine for NAAT)

**Data Collection Tool:**

- Number of female asymptomatic women presenting for an STI screen (having STI screen) included in this audit
- Number of above where endocervical swab or low vaginal swab sent for NAAT testing

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Next review due: 2022

ICGP STI Sample Audit

The next steps are to:

- Analyse and interpret your data via comparison with your target
- Decide on what changes need to be made and to implement these changes
- Re-audit your (individual) practice

A detailed explanation of all of these steps can be found in the ICGP Audit Toolkit, which is available on [www.icgp.ie/audit](http://www.icgp.ie/audit)