









#### What is it?

#### Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection (STI)

that is passed on through any type of unprotected sexual act (including oral sex, anal sex, and acts using your hands) and kissing.



It may have no symptoms and is easily passed on.





















#### Who's at risk?

Any sexually active person can get syphilis through unprotected sex.

At the moment we are seeing an increase of cases in **young people** aged between 15 - 29 in WA.

Syphilis can also be given to **bub** during pregnancy.











What does testing look like?



If you're in regional WA you could have access to a **finger prick blood test**which finds results in just 15 minutes.











How do I know if i have it?

Signs of syphilis can include **sores** on your genitals and/or mouth, or a **rash** on your palms, feet, or body.

But a lot of people have **no symptoms**, so it's important to **get tested regularly.** 

Syphilis symptoms often disappear, but the infection remains. In order to go away, syphilis must be treated by a medical professional.









#### What does treatment look like?

The good news is that syphilis is very **treatable** and can be treated with a doctor visit.

Treatment is usually a dose of penicillin. If you're allergic to penicillin the doctor will prescribe you something else.

Syphilis is easier to treat the quicker you catch it.











### How do I tell my partner?

As syphilis is highly contagious if you test positive its important to **tell your previous partners** straight away.

If you don't feel comfortable telling your partner directly you can **ask the clinic where you were tested** to notify them or you can send an

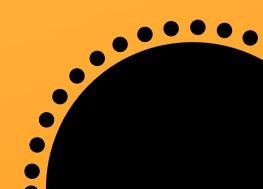
anonymous text message from websites like;

www.thedramadownunder.info/ www.bettertoknow.org.au www.letthemknow.org.au



















### How can I protect myself and others?

The best way to prevent the spread of syphilis is by practicing safe sex: using barrier methods like condoms, dental dams, internal condoms, and gloves. **Getting tested** every 3 months and staying on top of your sexual health also reduces your risk.



at your GP or sexual health clinic.













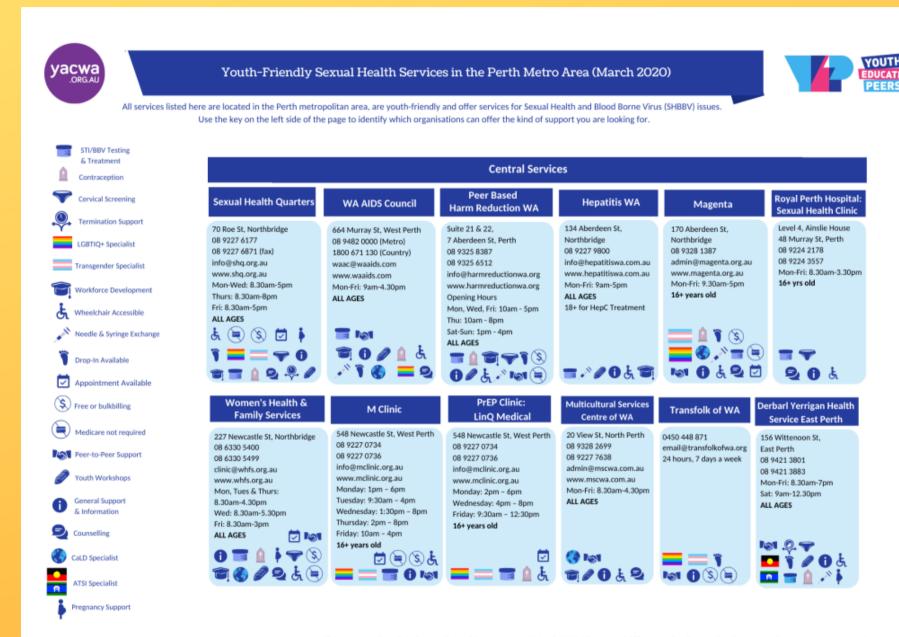








### Where can I get tested in Perth?



This resource is updated annually, and is current as of March 2020. If you would like to make changes for the next update, contact us at yep@yacwa.org.au



For more services check out our referral guide theyepproject.org.au/resources/ referral-resource-2020/

