

Screen women for chlamydia, gonorrhea, experts say

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Task force cautions most women don't have symptoms from these infections.

(HealthDay)—All sexually active women should be screened for two of the most common sexually transmitted infections: chlamydia and gonorrhea, according to new recommendations from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force.

The [task force](#) noted this recommendation includes older women, those younger than 24 years of age and pregnant women.

Most women with chlamydia and [gonorrhea](#) don't develop noticeable symptoms. As a result, many infections go undetected. If left untreated, these [sexually transmitted infections](#) can cause serious complications for both women and unborn babies.

Although chlamydia and gonorrhea are most common among young women, older women who engage in risky sexual behaviors—such as

having multiple partners and not using condoms—are also at risk, said a news release from the American College of Physicians.

If women develop new risk factors for these sexually transmitted infections since their last negative test result, they should be screened again, according to the recommendations published on Monday in *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Pregnant women who test positive for chlamydia or gonorrhea in the first trimester should be re-tested three months after being treated.

There are no significant risks associated with screening for chlamydia and gonorrhea. The task force noted there was not enough evidence to provide recommendations on [chlamydia](#) and gonorrhea screening for men.

More information: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has more about [sexually transmitted infections](#).

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