



Explain why a retest is important.

Patients can enter a reminder in their phone or diary to repeat the test in 3 months, or the practice can send them a reminder.



How to discuss this with patients:

"It's very common to be reinfected with chlamydia, and this can increase the chance of causing a condition called pelvic inflammatory disease. It's good to check again for a new infection in 3 months.

We can send you a reminder text when it's due. You could also put a reminder in your phone now."

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Image: Blessing Ri on Unsplash





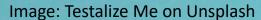
Provide the patient with a swab and/or pathology request form at the time of treatment, so they can access a retest directly from a pathology lab.



How to discuss this with patients:

"I can give you a form and a swab now if that would work for you?

You can just drop this bag with the sample and form at your nearest pathology collection centre."







Plan a follow-up consult with something that may be higher on the patient's agenda.



How to discuss this with patients:

"Why don't we book a follow-up consult in a few months to check how you are finding the implant (Implanon), and we can also do another swab to make sure it's still negative for chlamydia?

We know one in four women can be reinfected, so it's important to repeat the test at that time."







You can add a comment to the client's file.

In Best Practice, for example, a comment will show up in bold red, which can remind you to offer a retest opportunistically.



How to discuss this with patients:

"I noticed that it's just over three months since we treated that chlamydia infection. Would it be OK if we did another swab today to check you haven't acquired another infection?

We offer this to everyone as we know reinfection is very common."



Image: Scott Webb on Unsplash