Evidence to support the adoption of new biomarkers

Searching for existing evidence…quickly

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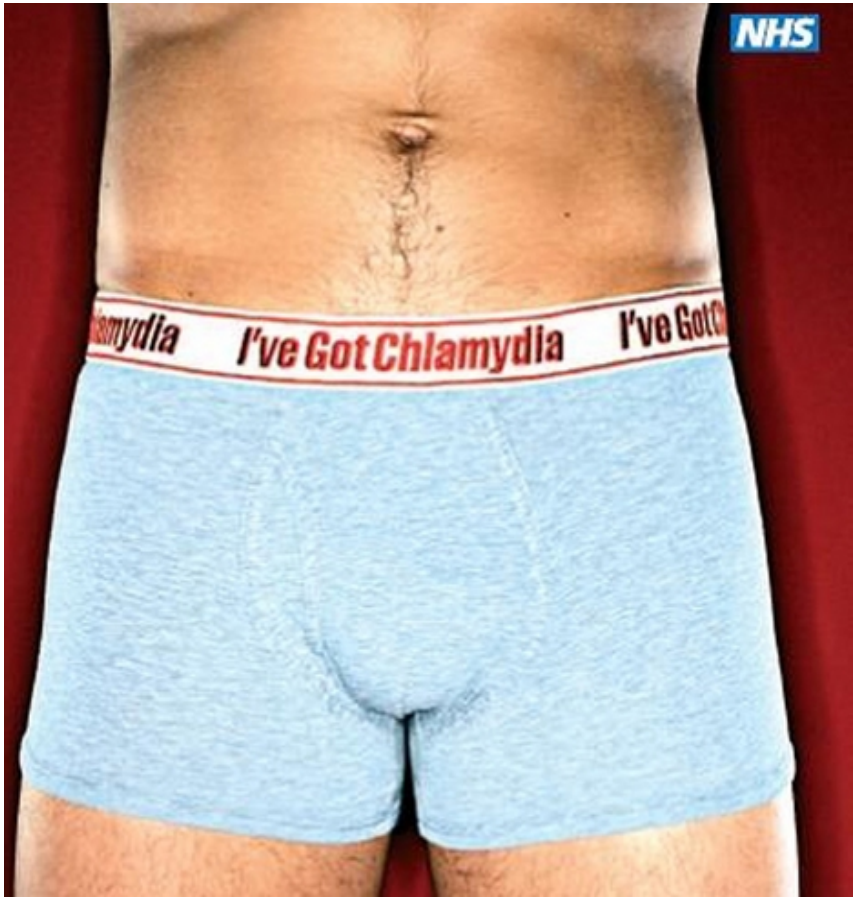
Is there a role for point of care chlamydia testing in a national screening programme?



Asking the right questions?

- What is the diagnostic accuracy of current chlamydia point of care tests?
- Is chlamydia POCT cost-effective in comparison with current testing procedures?
- What impact does POCT have on the treatment of chlamydia?
- Does POCT improve workflow in STI clinics?
- Is rapid diagnosis and treatment important to people attending STI clinics?

Overarching question

- P = people attending a sexual health clinic
- I = point of care test
- R = laboratory test
- T = Chlamydia

- Key search terms
  - point of care test
  - chlamydia

1st step: identify overviews

- Secondary sources
  - Evidence syntheses, horizon scanning reports, systematic reviews…

- TRIP database www.tripdatabase.com
- NHS Evidence Search www.evidence.nhs.uk
- Google www.google.co.uk

2nd step: identify DTA studies

- Develop search strategy
  - Identify synonyms
  - Combine with Boolean operators – AND/OR
  - Use advanced searching techniques - * ? “”
- Apply filter for diagnostic accuracy studies
- Run search on PubMed www.pubmed.gov

Search tips

- AND – combine 2 different concepts to focus you search e.g. poct AND chlamydia
- OR – combine synonyms for the same concept to broaden your search e.g. “point of care” OR poct
- () – nesting to put a search together e.g. (“point of care” OR poct) AND chlamydia
- * - truncation to identify variant spellings e.g. test* for capturing test, tests, testing…
- “” – phrase searching, two or more words next to each other
- [field searching] – search for words in specific areas of a PubMed record e.g. [ti] restricts to title

Search strategy

1. Point of care test* OR poc OR poct OR rapid test*
2. Chlamydia*
3. 1 AND 2
4. DTA filter

Design your own DTA search filter

Search strategy

1. Point of care test* OR poc OR poct OR rapid test*
2. Chlamydia*
3. 1 AND 2
4. Sensitivity OR specificity OR “predictive value” OR ppv OR npv OR diagnos*[ti]
5. 3 AND 4

- Advanced search
- Clinical queries

www.pubmed.gov

3rd step: identify other studies

- Adapt your search strategy
  - Filter for cost studies
  - Filter for implementation studies
  - Filter for qualitative studies

- Design your own filter or use PubMed Topic-Specific Queries

Other search resources

- Cochrane Library www.thecochranelibrary.com/
- CRD databases www.crd.york.ac.uk/CRDWeb/
- MEDIONdatabase www.mediondatabase.nl/
- Embase www.elsevier.com/online-tools/embase
- ClinicalTrials.gov http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/home

More information on searching

- PubMed tutorials
  www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/disted/pubmed.html
- Cochrane Handbook for DTA reviews
  http://srdta.cochrane.org/handbook-dta-reviews
- CRD's guidance for undertaking reviews in health care
  www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/pdf/Systematic_Reviews.pdf
- Searching Skills Toolkit
  http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-EHEP003109.html