

Common questions at a sexual health appointment

While it might feel awkward or embarrassing talking to a health professional about your sexual and reproductive health needs, health professionals need to know about your situation to best help you. This means they may sometimes need to ask some sensitive questions about your circumstances. Don't worry, all of the information you share will remain private and confidential.

During an STI test:

- Do you have any medical conditions?
- Do you take any medications?
- Have you had any previous STI testing or treatment?
- Do you have any symptoms?
- What are your sexual practices (including if you use condoms or contraception)?
- Can you tell me about your sexual partner(s)?
- Discuss your general sexual history

When you ask for contraception:

- Do you have any medical conditions?
- Are you sexually active?
- Do you have regular partner(s)?
- Do you intend to become pregnant in the near future?
- Tell me a bit about your lifestyle? (eg work, family, schedule)

When getting emergency contraception:

- When did you have unprotected sex?
- Are you on any contraception methods?
- When was your last period?
- Have you had a pregnancy test recently?
- Are you taking any other medications at the moment?
- Were you sexually assaulted?

During a cervical screen:

- What is your age?
- Are you sexually active?
- When was your last Cervical Screening Test or Pap Smear test?
- Have you had the HPV vaccine?

When you ask for an abortion:

- Do you have any medical conditions or mental health concerns?
- How many weeks pregnant are you?
- Do you have a support person?
- Do you feel pressured into having the pregnancy or having an abortion?
- Were you sexually assaulted?
- Do you have any concerns around your safety, finances or living conditions?

Things you should NEVER be asked:

- Do your parents know you're having sex?
- What is your religion?
- Isn't this against your cultural beliefs?
- Can you take all your clothes off?

If you have any concerns around how a health professional has treated you, you can find more information about your health rights and making a complaint [here](#).

