

Clinical Toolkit

Clinical Tips: Chlamydia

Chlamydia is the most frequently reported notifiable infection in Australia, with increasing population notification rates. Young people are disproportionately affected; 80% of infections occur in people under 29 years of age.

High risk groups:

- Females aged 20-24 years
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- People residing in regional and remote locations

In 2016 there were 10,438 notifications in females aged 15-19 years, and 14,888 notifications in females aged 20-24 years in Australia.

It is important to note that Chlamydia is usually asymptomatic, therefore sexually active young people should be offered chlamydia screening opportunistically.

Repeat screening (in sexually active young people) to exclude reinfection is recommended, as reinfection rates remain high.

References

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/ohp-bbvs-sti#2>

Australian Government Department of Health. National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System http://www9.health.gov.au/cda/source/rpt_5.cfm