CLINICIAN-TAKEN EXTRA-GENITAL SAMPLES FOR GONORRHOEA AND CHLAMYDIA IN WOMEN AND MSM COMPARED WITH SELF-TAKEN SAMPLES ANALYSED SEPARATELY AND SELF-TAKEN POOLED SAMPLES

1Janet Wilson, 2Hariet Wallace, 1Michelle Lethkus-Keeving, 2Helen Ward, 3Claire Hulme, 4Mark Wilcox. Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, UK; 1Imperial College, UK; 4University of Leeds, UK

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Introduction Extra-genital tests for gonorrhoea (NG) and chlamydia (CT) are important in MSM and increasingly in women as vulvovaginal swabs (VVS) alone can miss infections but rectum, pharynx and urogenital swabs treble the diagnostic cost. Self-sampling is frequently used despite no robust RCT assessing its efficacy. We compared clinician-taken extra-genital samples with self-taken samples analysed both separately and as pooled samples for diagnostic accuracy.

Methods Women and MSM attending a sexual health clinic were recruited. Clinician and two self-samples (analysed separately and pooled) from the pharynx and rectum (plus VVS or FCU in MSM) tested for NG and CT using Aptima Combo 2. Sampling order was randomised. Patient infected status was defined as at least two positive confirmed samples.

Results 1795 (1284 women, 509 MSM) recruited. Overall prevalence: NG 9.0%, VVS/FCU 4.2% (75), rectum 4.6% (83), pharynx 4.0% (72); 9.4% females and 66.7% MSM were VVS/FCU negative. CT 15.4%, VVS/FCU 12.1% (217), rectum 13.9% (249), pharynx 3.5% (63); 13.1% females and 71.8% MSM were VVS/FCU negative. Sensitivities, specificities, PPVs and NPVs: NG Rectum Clinician: 93.98, 99.94, 98.73, 99.71 NG Rectum Self: 96.39, 99.77, 95.24, 99.82 NG Pharynx Clinician: 93.06, 99.94, 98.53, 99.71 NG Pharynx Self: 95.83, 99.94, 98.57, 99.83 NG Self Pooled: 98.25, 99.94, 99.12, 99.88 CT Rectum Clinician: 95.95, 99.87, 99.16, 99.35 CT Rectum Self: 97.17, 99.81, 98.77, 99.55 CT Pharynx Clinician: 92.06, 99.94, 98.31, 99.71 CT Pharynx Self: 93.65, 99.83, 95.16, 99.77 CT Self Pooled: 96.01, 99.60, 97.79, 99.28. There was no difference between clinician and self-taken extra-genital samples or between self-taken analysed separately or pooled by McNemar test.

Conclusion This is the first RCT showing self-taken extra-genital samples are comparable to clinician-taken and can be analysed accurately as a pooled sample. High levels of infections are missed with just VVS/FCU. Trebling diagnostic costs would be unaffordable for many health systems but a pooled sample has the same cost as the current VVS/FCU.

EXPRESS TESTING IN URBAN STD CLINICS HAS NO IMPACT ON GONORRHOEA TREATMENT COMPLETION RATES COMPARED TO CLINICAL EXAMINATION AND TESTING AMONG PATIENTS NOT RECEIVING PRESUMPTIVE TREATMENT

1Christina Schumacher, 2Elizabeth Humes, 1Luke Johnsen, 3Kathleen Page, 1Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, USA; 2Baltimore City Health Department, USA

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Introduction The impact of testing asymptomatic patients for sexually transmitted infections without a clinical examination (CE), i.e., Express Testing (ET), on treatment completion has varied, in part due to differences in presumptive treatment practices. Our objective was to determine whether patients diagnosed with gonorrhoea (GC) through ET were as likely to return for treatment within 30 days compared to those who had a CE but were not presumptively treated for GC at the date of visit in two publically funded U.S. urban STD clinics.

Methods We analysed STD clinic records of patients diagnosed with GC and who did not receive presumptive GC treatment at the initial visit from January 2014-July 2016. Treatment completion was defined as receiving dual therapy regimen (ceftriaxone plus azithromycin or doxycycline) within 30 days of being tested for GC. We used logistic binomial regression to compare treatment completion rates by visit type (ET vs. CE).

Results Between January 2014-July 2016, 1893 persons were diagnosed with GC, 74% of whom were presumptively treated at the initial visit. Among the 395 men and 234 women not presumptively treated, 54% and 68% completed treatment within 30 days, respectively. Among women, CE vs. ET was not associated with treatment completion [Adjusted relative risk (ARR): 1.14, 95% CI (0.95–1.37)], adjusting for year, clinic, age, and presumptive azithromycin treatment. Men diagnosed through CE vs. ET were 24% less likely to complete treatment [ARR: 0.76, (0.65–0.91)], adjusting for the same factors. Men presumptively treated with azithromycin treatment alone were 46% less likely to complete treatment [ARR: 0.54, (0.41–0.70)].

Conclusion Among patients who did not receive presumptive treatment at the initial visit, ET vs. CE had no effect on GC treatment completion among women and increased treatment completion among men. Men presumptively treated with azithromycin were significantly less likely to return for recommended GC treatment, suggesting that ET may reduce incorrect presumptive diagnoses leading to under-treatment of GC patients.

Oral Presentation Session 12
Antimicrobial Resistance

ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) GONOCOCCAL RESISTANCE SURVEILLANCE EFFORT, REFERENCE LABORATORY AND REPOSITORY FROM A POPULATION OF AT-RISK UNITED STATES DOD BENEFICIARIES

1Grace Macalino, 2Nicole Kug, 3Naiza Rahman, 4Jose Sanchez, 5Ann Jose. 1Uniformed Services University, USA; 2University of Texas-Austin, USA; 3Armed Forces Health Surveillance Branch, USA

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Introduction Gonorrhoea (GC) has been identified as an urgent antimicrobial resistance treat, yet its prevalence is not well characterised in all risk groups. We were interested in establishing an ongoing surveillance effort to identify the prevalence of GC resistance and associated factors in at-risk U.S. DoD beneficiaries.

Methods We identified DoD military treatment facilities (MTFs) where sexually transmitted infections are diagnosed that had both high rates of GC and a local champion. Upon assessment, culture testing capacity was low and not standard of care. The study protocol required a sample for culture and a confidential, self-administered questionnaire. Standard