

Introducing  
***PCR Test for  
Chlamydia trachomatis***



## Introduction

*Chlamydia* is a common sexually transmitted disease (STD) caused by a bacterium ***Chlamydia trachomatis***, which can damage an individual's reproductive organs.

## Incidences

- 92 million cases of infection per year with a global coverage of 3.1% of population (2010).
- More than 2/3rd cases are of developing countries.
- 80% of women & 40% men are asymptomatic.
- Infected women are more likely to have HIV, if exposed.

## Signs & Symptoms

### Women

#### **Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID):**

Infection in uterus, ovary & fallopian tube.  
Future risk of ectopic pregnancy/Premature birth.  
Fallopian tubes might get scarred.  
Can also lead to problems with fertility

#### **Cervicitis:**

Inflammation of cervix.  
Yellowish vaginal discharge and pain during sex.  
Long term cases may lead to cyst formation.  
Deep pelvic pain & backache.

#### **In Pregnancy Cases:**

Can pass to baby causing eye/ lung infection.

### Men

#### **Epididymitis:**

Painful inflammation of tube system a part of testicles which can lead to infertility.

#### **Urethritis:**

Inflammation of Urine tube (Urethra)  
Yellow/pus like discharge at tip of penis  
Long term infection causes narrowing of urethra  
Kidney problems

#### **Reactive arthritis:**

Inflammation of joints, urethra and eyes.

## Diagnosis by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)

A polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test is an example of a nucleic acid amplification test. PCR test finds the genetic material (DNA) of *Chlamydia* bacteria. The PCR was performed with two different sets of primers, a genus-specific primer set directed against the rRNA genes and a *C. trachomatis*-specific set directed against the common endogenous plasmid. These tests are the most sensitive tests available. Overall, this novel real-time PCR approach exhibited an excellent specificity and sensitivity over the culture technique for the detection of *C. trachomatis*.

Sample in case of females: Urine / swab specimens from Endocervix or vagina

Sample in case of males: Urine / Urethral swab

## Reporting Schedule

**Performed:** Tuesday & Friday (Cut off previous day -6 pm)

**Reporting Schedule:** Same day



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