



British Association for Sexual Health and HIV

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BASHH Guidance on Priority Groups for Access to GUM Services

GUM services are working to achieve 48 hour access to their services for all who wish to attend. This guidance is intended to be used within the 48 hours access context and also by services, which have not met the 48 hour requirement yet. The guidance indicates the general patient groups and symptoms, which should be given priority. This may require local adaptation according to individual GUM service circumstances.

Priority Male and Female Patients

- Untreated sexually transmitted infection (STI)
- Contacts of a known sexually transmissible infection eg. chlamydial infection, gonorrhoea, trichomoniasis, syphilis
- Post exposure/sexual exposure prophylaxis (PEP/PEPSE) required
- Genital or perianal ulceration
- Recent history of alleged sexual assault
- Under 16 years of age
- Sex industry workers
- Systemic symptoms eg. fever, joint pains, generalised rash
- At discretion of the healthcare worker eg. distressed or anxious patient

Priority Female Patients

- Dysuria
- Abnormal or changed vaginal discharge
- Pelvic or low abdominal pain, which is of recent onset
- Painful sex
- Emergency contraception required
- Pregnant women

Priority Male Patients

- Dysuria
- Urethral discomfort or discharge
- Rectal pain or discharge
- Testicular pain or swelling

[E Carlin, A Winter, M Abbott 17June 2006](#)