



# Public Sexual Health Service Restrictions

Due to the evolving Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, there are significant restrictions to public sexual health services.

This includes some closures or restrictions to HIV and STI testing services and PrEP clinics.

Some services have telephone support available. People are asked to please be patient when waiting on a call to be returned from any of the services, due to this unprecedented time for the Irish healthcare services.

Treatment clinics for HIV, STIs and Hepatitis are operating at some level and individual clinics will provide this information for anyone currently receiving treatment. If you have an upcoming appointment, you will be contacted and informed when and how to get your medication.

Some PrEP clinics have closed or are restricted. Services will get in touch with those who have appointments to let you know if you should attend or not, and to consider options for prescriptions. These options may be limited as some staff are redeployed for the COVID-19 response.

Some clinics will continue to take referrals for access to PEP. This could change. Contact the clinic first to establish if you can or should attend. For out of hours access to PEP, go to the [Hospital Emergency Department](#).

Updates on services are outlined below and will be updated further as information becomes available.

*This information has been compiled by HIV Ireland in conjunction with the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme, and with thanks to the clinics and services for providing the information.*

**HSE HIV and Sexual Health Helpline: 1800 459 459**

(Monday to Friday between 9:30 am and 5:30 pm)

**Email: [helpline@hse.ie](mailto:helpline@hse.ie)**

## DUBLIN AND LEINSTER

### GUIDe Clinic – **Limited Services only**

- **HIV service** – The HIV service will continue but with some restrictions. If you have an appointment please attend at the allocated appointment time. If you have a supply of medication you may wish to defer your appointment. If you have any questions or concerns please call 01 4103539 and leave a message with your name, hospital number and phone number. A member of staff will return your call as soon as possible. Please note, this phone number is for patients who attend the HIV service only.
- **STI service** – Only seeing emergency patients with a referral letter. Referral letters can be sent from your GP via Healthlink.
- The **PrEP service** is fully booked for January 2021. Online bookings are not available at present. Patients with upcoming appointments will be contacted by the PrEP team for phone consultations.
- **PEP** –The Emergency Department is currently providing a 4-day supply of PEP with referral to the GUIDE clinic for follow-up.

Keep up to date at [www.guideclinic.ie](http://www.guideclinic.ie)

### Gay Men’s Health Service (GMHS) – **CLOSED**

Testing clinics are closed until further notice.

PrEP Clinic is closed and current service users will now be seen at the GUIDE Clinic at St. James’s Hospital. Service users currently taking PrEP will be contacted by text message in relation to their next scheduled appointment.

There are also [alternative approved PrEP clinics available](#) around the country.

For advice and support about HIV testing and prevention options, contact the [MPOWER outreach team](#) at HIV Ireland.

### Mater Misericordiae University Hospital – **Limited Service available**

Routine STI services operating at a reduced capacity. Telephone 01 803 2063 for an appointment or to speak with a sexual health nurse.

PEP: is available via the Mater Hospital Emergency Department.

PrEP Clinic: this service resumes on week of 29<sup>th</sup> June. Service users can email [prep@mater.ie](mailto:prep@mater.ie) to access this service. Initial assessments will take place virtually, followed up by an appointment to attend for a full STI screen and collection of prescription.

The Mater Community testing service for asymptomatic testing is currently **CLOSED for new appointments.**

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30am to 2pm, in the basement office of HIV Ireland, 70 Eccles Street, Dublin 1 (across the road from the Mater Private Hospital).

By appointment only - email [communityclinic@mater.ie](mailto:communityclinic@mater.ie) or telephone 01 803 2063

### **Beaumont Hospital – Restricted Services**

Walk-in HIV testing services closed until further notice.

Weekly HIV clinics running as normal.

Telephone support available at 01 809 3006

PEP is available through the Emergency Department with referrals to the clinic for follow-up.

### **St. Vincent's University Hospital - Restricted Services**

STI Testing: those with symptoms should present to a GP and will then be linked to the testing clinic if necessary.

PEP: available through the Emergency Department and will then be linked to the clinic for follow-up.

PrEP: Virtual follow-up for existing service users. Not accepting new referrals at present. New service users can self-refer to [psc@svuh.ie](mailto:psc@svuh.ie) and will be added to a waiting list.

HIV Services: Virtual appointments/phone consultations for existing service users and attending the hospital to only collect medications and get bloods done if indicated. Still accepting referrals for new service users.

### **HIV Ireland – Limited Service**

MPOWER Rapid HIV Testing Service, for gay and bisexual men, is now available on Wednesdays (6pm to 8pm) and Saturdays (2pm to 4pm) at 70 Eccles Street, Dublin 7. Bookings are by appointment only. Bookings open online at [www.hivireland.ie/mpower](http://www.hivireland.ie/mpower) 24 hours before each session.

The twice-monthly HIV & STI testing service is suspended until further notice.

Monthly testing at The Red Door Project, Drogheda is cancelled also.

Telephone Support: 01 873 3799

### **Midlands Regional Hospital, Portlaoise – Restricted Services**

STI Testing & Services – emergency services only for those with symptoms.

Telephone 086 859 1273 for an appointment.

PEP: available at the Emergency Department, with follow-up at the clinic.

PrEP – maintenance services for current service users only.

**Midlands Regional Hospital, Mullingar – No appointments available at this time.** No STI testing services currently. People with symptoms are asked to contact their GP.

### **Louth County Hospital, Dundalk – CLOSED**

STI services are currently closed.

Telephone 086 824 1847

PEP: available through the Hospital Emergency Department at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda 24/7, telephone 041 983 7601

PrEP: Telephone and leave a message for a member of the team to call you back.

**Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda – CLOSED**

STI services are currently closed.

Telephone 086 824 1847

PEP: available through the Hospital Emergency Department 24/7, telephone 041 983 7601

**Monaghan General Hospital – CLOSED**

STI services are currently closed.

Telephone 086 824 1847

PEP: available at the Minor Injury Unit Monday–Friday, telephone 047 38835

## **MUNSTER**

### **South Infirmery Victoria Hospital Cork – CLOSED except for Emergencies**

**STI Testing:** Emergency services only for those with symptoms.

Telephone 021 4966 844 for an appointment, and leave a detailed voicemail. There may be a delay in responding to your query due to reduced staffing levels.

**PEP:** telephone 021 4966 844 for assessment or contact Emergency Department in Cork University Hospital (021 454 6400) or Mercy University Hospital (021 427 1971).

**PrEP Service:** current service users will be contacted in relation to appointments and prescriptions.

**Vaccinations:** current service users will be contacted for completion of vaccination programmes.

### **The Sexual Health Centre, Cork - OPEN**

Rapid HIV Testing Service available by appointment only. Telephone 021 427 6676 or email [info@sexualhealthcentre.com](mailto:info@sexualhealthcentre.com)

### **University Hospital Kerry, Tralee – CLOSED**

STI Testing clinics CLOSED for November and December.

Telephone the clinic at the South Infirmery Victoria Hospital in Cork: 021 496 6844

### **University Hospital Limerick – OPEN – Restricted Numbers**

STI Testing: providing STI clinics on Tuesday mornings and Thursday mornings and afternoons, by appointment only.

Telephone 061 482 382 for an appointment.

PrEP: now seeing new and existing service users.

PEP: Contact the Acute Medical Unit (AMU) at the hospital for emergency 5-day pack and receive referral to the sexual health clinic.

HIV and hepatitis clinics: appropriate individual arrangements are being made with all current service users. If you have not heard from the clinic, please telephone.

### **University Hospital Nenagh – OPEN – Restricted Numbers**

STI testing clinics, by appointment only, on Wednesday afternoons.

### **University Hospital Ennis – OPEN – Restricted Numbers**

STI testing clinics, by appointment only, on Monday mornings.

**University Hospital Waterford – Restricted Services**

Limited STI testing services – priority will be given to people with symptoms and contacts of infections (and for sexual assault, and hsv outbreaks).

PrEP – limited availability.

PEP will be available through clinic or the Emergency Department for out of hours.

Telephone support: 051 842 646 – leave a message with staff for a doctor/nurse callback.

**South Tipperary General Hospital, Clonmel - CLOSED**

STI testing clinics and services closed until further notice. Testing available at University Hospital Waterford for people with symptoms.

Telephone support: 051 842 646 – leave a message with staff for a doctor/nurse callback.

**Carlow District Hospital - CLOSED**

STI testing clinics and services closed until further notice. Testing available at University Hospital Waterford for people with symptoms.

Telephone support: 051 842 646 – leave a message with staff for a doctor/nurse callback.

## **CONNAUGHT AND ULSTER**

### **University College Hospital Galway – OPEN with restrictions**

STI testing clinics open on an appointment basis only, prioritising people with symptoms or who have other STI urgent care needs.

The walk-in clinic is not operating.

Telephone 091 525 200 and calls will be returned.

Limited services for emergencies will be available.

PEP: available at the clinic, and through Hospital Emergency Department at weekends and out of hours.

HIV treatment and care services ongoing for current service users on an appointment basis.

PrEP: services currently ongoing.

Vaccinations: services currently ongoing.

### **Portiuncla Hospital, Ballinasloe – OPEN - Normal Service has resumed**

Telephone 090 964 8372 (extn 676) for an appointment.

### **Mayo General Hospital, Castlebar – OPEN - Normal Service has resumed**

Telephone 094 902 1733 (extn 3501) for an appointment.

### **Sligo University Hospital – Restricted Services only**

STI testing services – seeing urgent, symptomatic cases only, by appointment.

Requests for appointment will be triaged by telephone first.

Telephone 071 917 0473 for appointments, health advice, support and referral information.

PEP: available at the clinic, or through the Hospital Emergency Department outside of clinic hours.

### **Letterkenny General Hospital – OPEN with limited capacity**

STI Testing clinics and services open with limited capacity. Appointment only.

Telephone 074 912 3715 for appointments, health advice, support and referral information.