Health Offers Express Testing for STDs

Sexually transmitted diseases can often go unnoticed leading to transmission of disease and potential illness for people throughout the community. Barriers often discourage detection of commonly transmitted STD’s such as Chlamydia and gonorrhea. These diseases, left untreated can be harmful, causing illness that could affect a woman’s ability to have children. Springfield, Missouri is not unique in the fact that STD’s are common illnesses affecting many people in our community, sometimes without any outward signs and symptoms.

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department is now offering innovative, unique new services aimed to expand the number of clients served, and in turn prevent spread of common sexually transmitted diseases. The laboratory located inside the health department has recently implemented an express urine test for Chlamydia and gonorrhea. This express testing option is available for clients that do not have symptoms of a sexually transmitted disease.

The health department is the first agency in the Springfield area to offer urine testing for Chlamydia and gonorrhea. This test offers the most advanced testing technology which has been shown to be less invasive and offer the same reliability as former versions of testing for these diseases. “Reducing barriers is a significant step toward making testing more widely available and could lead to a reduction in cases with proper treatment and prevention education,” said Kendra Williams, Administrator of Community Health and Epidemiology.

The Springfield Greene County Health Department has partnered with Jordan Valley Community Health Center to provide this state of the art testing. The goal of implementing this additional form of testing will be to increase the number of clients served while decreasing illness and complications to clients caused when these sexually transmitted diseases are left untreated.

Currently, testing for sexually transmitted diseases is available at the health department at no cost to the client. Walk-in clinics are available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday on a first come, first serve basis. Doors open at 7:30 am and registration begins at 8:00 am.

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