

# OpenClinic

Sexual Health Services in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin

## HIV Testing Week 2026

This year, National HIV Testing Week runs from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

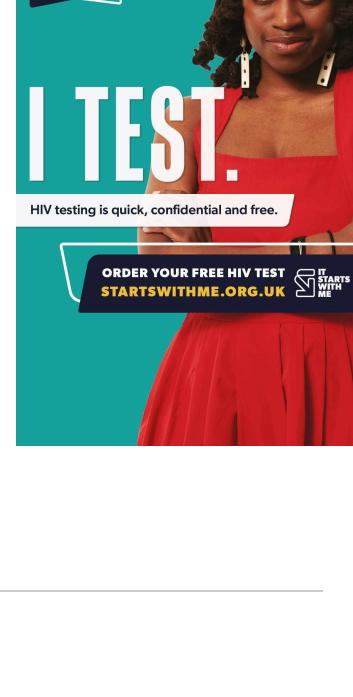
Every year, the campaign encourages people to get tested regularly for HIV, aiming to reduce the number of people living with undiagnosed HIV and those diagnosed late.

Currently, an estimated 4,700 people are living with undiagnosed HIV in England. Additionally, UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) data shows that levels of late diagnosis remain high, with 42% of diagnoses in 2024 made late. UKHSA also reports that, in 2024, people diagnosed late in England were 10 times more likely to die within a year than those diagnosed promptly.

### Key Messages

HIV Prevention England want to ensure people know that:

- People can live with HIV for a long time without any symptoms and testing is the only way to know your HIV status.
- Testing for HIV is quick, easy, confidential and free for everyone in the UK.
- If you have HIV, finding out means you can start treatment, stay healthy and avoid passing the virus onto anyone else.
- There are many ways to test: via a sexual health clinic; your GP; through HIV and sexual health charities; or by ordering a test online.
- Anyone diagnosed with HIV in the UK can access free treatment and support.



### Signposting People for Testing

Our sexual health services provide free self-testing kits for people aged 16+, which can test for HIV, as well as other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). They're easy to order online via our website [www.openclinic.org.uk](http://www.openclinic.org.uk).

During HIV Testing Week, people can also order a testing kit for HIV at [www.freetesting.hiv](http://www.freetesting.hiv); where they have the option of a rapid test too, which gives results in minutes.

People under 16, or those who have symptoms, should visit their [nearest sexual health clinic](#) for a test.



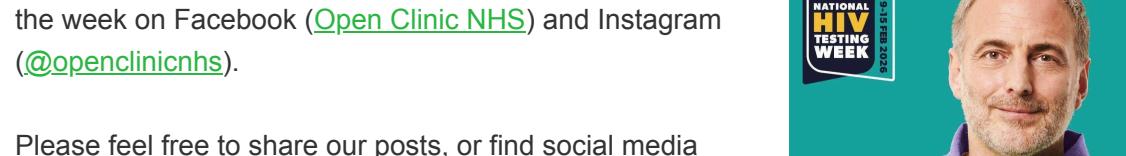
### Free Webinar from HIV Prevention England

HIV Prevention England are hosting a National HIV Testing Week webinar presented by Dr Alison Brown, Consultant Scientist at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), on the findings from UKHSA's *Understanding HIV testing in England: 2025 report*. Dr Brown will present the latest picture of HIV testing across England, highlighting where testing is taking place, who remains underserved and the approaches helping to widen access and support earlier diagnosis.

The webinar is aimed at clinicians, commissioners and community organisations, the session will focus on practical implications for local pathways, commissioning and partnership working, followed by audience Q&A.

**Date:** Wednesday 11 February 2026, 12:30-1:30pm

[Register here](#)



### Resources and Content

We will be sharing content leading up to, and throughout the week on Facebook ([Open Clinic NHS](#)) and Instagram ([@openclinichns](#)).

Please feel free to share our posts, or find social media resources available to download on HIV Prevention England's [HIV Testing Week Trello Board](#).



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[www.openclinic.org.uk](http://www.openclinic.org.uk)



For more information, please email [SexualHealthComms@mpft.nhs.uk](mailto:SexualHealthComms@mpft.nhs.uk)

If you do not wish to receive emails from Open Clinic Sexual Health Services, please reply to this email saying "Unsubscribe".