



# HIV: Let's sort this together.

**GREATER MANCHESTER HIV TESTING WEEK 2023**  
25 - 30 NOVEMBER

## Greater Manchester HIV Testing Week – HIV: Let's sort this together

The PaSH Partnership are inviting you to join in with **Greater Manchester HIV Testing Week**, which will take place between 25th and 30th November 2023.

Greater Manchester has become a Fast-Track City; a global partnership between cities that have the ambition of ending all new cases of HIV within a generation by reducing transmissions, late HIV diagnoses, and eventually new diagnoses of HIV.

GM HIV Testing Week '23 is a chance to encourage all Greater Manchester residents to know their status.

It's a great opportunity **to get tested and encourage others to test for HIV.**

We want to encourage people to test through focusing on how easy it is to do a self-sampling test in the comfort of their own home. We also want to empower people to know what to do if the test does come back positive.

[gmpash.org.uk/hiv-testing](https://gmpash.org.uk/hiv-testing)



### How YOU can support Greater Manchester HIV Testing Week

Community leaders, charities, barbers and hairdressers, faith leaders, GPs, sexual health clinics and other stakeholders are invited to take part by:

♥ Using the hashtag #GMHIVtestingweek

♥ Sharing the campaign on your social media channels and through internal communications

♥ Sharing with service users and community members about HIV testing week and where they can access information about HIV and prevention as well as links to order home testing kits, such as <https://gmpash.org.uk/hiv-testing>

♥ Sharing articles about the campaign and Greater Manchester HIV Testing Week

The PaSH  Partnership

Passionate about Sexual Health across Greater Manchester





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## Why get involved?

Promoting the campaign will:

- ♥ Start a conversation about HIV and HIV prevalence in Greater Manchester.
- ♥ Improve the awareness and understanding of HIV testing and the ease of at home testing.
- ♥ Improve the sexual health of Greater Manchester residents through encouraging people to know their HIV status.
- ♥ Make you a part of ending all new HIV transmissions within a generation.

## Where can GM residents test?

PaSH will be visiting venues across Greater Manchester offering HIV and STI tests in the community. We also offer Rapid HIV tests through bookable appointments.

For the first time, we have available rapid HIV self-tests, which give you quick results in the comfort of your home. You can order the kits from BHA's website, subject to eligibility criteria.

- ♥ [gmpash.org.uk/hiv-testing](http://gmpash.org.uk/hiv-testing)
- ♥ [thebha.org.uk/hivtesting](http://thebha.org.uk/hivtesting)
- ♥ [freetesting.hiv](http://freetesting.hiv)

- ♥ **Bury, Oldham, Rochdale:** [HCRG](#)
- ♥ **Bolton, Salford:** [SHINE](#)
- ♥ **Manchester, Trafford:** [The Northern Sexual Health](#)
- ♥ **Stockport, Tameside:** [Locala Sexual Health](#)
- ♥ **Wigan:** [Spectrum Sexual Health](#)

- ♥ For residents of other areas, check the [NHS service finder](#) for local services

## Key messages include:



I'm supporting Greater Manchester HIV Testing Week. If you don't know your HIV status, now is the best time to find out! **#SortHIV #GMHIVTestingWeek**



Do you know your status? Get tested now to find out. **#SortHIV #GMHIVTestingWeek**



It's time to test! A HIV test is the only way to know for sure if you have HIV. Get tested today to keep yourself healthy. **#SortHIV #GMHIVTestingWeek**



Testing just got easier – you can order a postal HIV testing kit and test in the comfort of your own home. **#SortHIV #GMHIVTestingWeek**



It's Greater Manchester HIV Testing Week! Do you need a HIV testing appointment? Visit [gmpash.org.uk/hiv-testing](http://gmpash.org.uk/hiv-testing) to book today **#SortHIV**



Take care of your sexual health by knowing your HIV Status. Get tested today. **#SortHIV #GMHIVTestingWeek**



HIV positive? Or worried about taking a test? HIV treatment is free for everyone in the UK and the sooner you are on medication the better it is for your long-term health **#SortHIV #GMHIVTestingWeek**

When posting on social media please use the hashtags: **#SortHIV #GMHIVTestingWeek**

For maximum impact, we suggest sharing messages alongside the campaign images.



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## Key definitions

**HIV:** HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus. Once in the body, and left untreated, the virus weakens the immune system by attacking the cells that help the body fight off infections and diseases.

**PrEP:** PrEP stands for pre-exposure prophylaxis. It is a prevention medication for those who don't have HIV but are at risk of contracting it, to reduce the risk of them getting HIV if they are exposed to the virus.

**PEP:** PEP stands for post-exposure prophylaxis. Similarly to PrEP, PEP reduces the risk of contracting HIV, however PEP is a medication taken after potential exposure to the virus rather than before. PEP is a 30-day course of medication that is available through A&E and GUM clinics.

**U=U:** U=U stands for undetectable = untransmittable. It refers to the fact that through a combination of medications known as antiretroviral therapy (ART), people with HIV can become 'untransmittable'. This means that there is a low count of the HIV virus in their blood meaning that they have a low viral load. Once the viral load is low enough then the likelihood of that person passing on HIV is almost zero.

## The Passionate About Sexual Health (PaSH)

Partnership delivers a comprehensive programme of interventions to meet the changing needs of people newly diagnosed with HIV, living longer term with HIV or at greatest risk of acquiring HIV. This includes HIV testing, access to low cost condoms, a dedicated sexual health website, outreach stalls and group workshops, and support for adults and children.

The PaSH Partnership is a collaboration between:

### BHA for Equality

A health and social care charity which exists to challenge and address health and social care inequalities and support individuals, families and communities to improve their health and wellbeing.

### George House Trust

Offering a range of services which provide support, advice, advocacy and information to help people with HIV live well and confidently and maintain good physical and emotional health.

### LGBT Foundation

A national charity delivering advice, support and information services to lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans communities. Together with LGBT communities and their supporters, LGBT Foundation works to secure a safe, healthy and equal future for all LGBT people.



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