Vaginal discharge can arise from either the vagina and/or the cervix. It is therefore important to visualise the cervix. See Sexual Health Check guideline [www.nzshs.org/guidelines](http://www.nzshs.org/guidelines).

Patient complains of vaginal discharge +/- itching / soreness / malodour.

Note: Also ask about abnormal bleeding / pelvic discomfort / dyspareunia. Consider possibility of retained tampons / foreign body.

Recommended tests
- Vulvovaginal NAAT swab for chlamydia & gonorrhoea testing prior to speculum insertion.
- Insert speculum, examine vagina and cervix.
- Endocervical culture swab for gonorrhoea (if gonorrhoea culture available).
- High vaginal culture swabs for candida & BV & trichomoniases (if NAAT for trichomoniases not available).
- Additional anorectal NAAT swab for chlamydia & gonorrhoea testing as indicated based on sexual history.

Examination findings
- Cervicitis – mucopurulent discharge on cervix or easily induced bleeding.
- Bimanual if c/o pelvic pain (see PID guideline [www.nzshs.org/guidelines](http://www.nzshs.org/guidelines)).
- Abnormal cervix: Refer for colposcopy.

Treatment
- Presumptive chlamydia +/- gonorrhoea.
- Azithromycin 1g stat plus specific treatment for gonorrhoea if a contact of gonorrhoea (see Gonorrhoea guideline [www.nzshs.org/guidelines](http://www.nzshs.org/guidelines)).

Follow-up
- Check results and resolution of symptoms.
- If positive results for chlamydia, gonorrhoea or trichomoniases – ensure appropriate treatment and partner notification.
- If negative results and symptoms persist – consult with a sexual health specialist.

Examination findings
- Vulvitis/vaginitis.
- Thick white curd-like vaginal discharge.

Treatment
- Presumptive candidiasis.
- Topical or oral antifungal such as clotrimazole or fluconazole.

Examination findings
- NO vaginitis or vulvitis.
- Fishy smelling white/grey adherent vaginal discharge.

Treatment
- Presumptive bacterial vaginosis.
- Metronidazole 400mg twice daily for 7 days.

Examination findings
- Offensive purulent frothy vaginal discharge +/- Vulvitis/vaginitis.

Treatment
- Presumptive trichomoniases.
- Metronidazole 2g po stat or metronidazole 400mg po twice daily for 7 days.