



# Government's STI failings result in increased business for UK health company

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PR9.NET October 16, 2005 - A supplier of home STI kits is reporting continuous high demand of its products to the British public due to the government's declining sexual health service.

Following last night's BBC report on how the government is failing the British public with STI treatment, Preventx, a leading European supplier of home Chlamydia testing kits is reporting that their product sales are increasing every month.

The report, which was covered in the TV programme Panorama, showed how the STI epidemic is overwhelming the sexual health service. Across the country, waiting times are at record levels, with many clinics forced to turn away patients.

Preventx director, Michelle Hart said: "Yesterday's report said that waiting time for a check up can be up to six weeks when it should only be two days. People should not have to wait that long. I am sure it would seem a lengthy and anxious period of time.

"We are seeing a rapid increase in our sales figures on a monthly basis. Most are from the public who just don't want to wait that long or who can't get an appointment at all."

She added: "Our product is easy to use; they are tested by a self-check method and the result is immediate."

All of the UK's 269 sexual health clinics were investigated and only 20 (7%) could offer an appointment within the routine 48 hours.

Speaking on the BBC programme, director of Sheffield Genitourinary Clinic, Dr George Kinghorn said: "I think it does represent a public health crisis. This is a problem which is only going to increase.

"If we have untreated and undiagnosed diseases in the community, then it will inevitably spread and more people will be infected."

The continuous increase of STI cases is believed to be a sign of the times. People are having unprotected sex with more people more often and at a younger age.

The government are now planning a £50m advertising campaign warning of the dangers of unsafe sex, but many clinics believe that this will add extra pressure to the already failing system.

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## About Preventx

Preventx is the UK's first and largest distributor of home drug testing kits.

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