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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media release

“The Immaculate Infection Theory” Sexual Health GP Shares Three Reasons Why An STI Diagnosis May Not Equal A Cheater

SYDNEY, Australia, 15th December 2023 - If you're unlucky enough to receive a positive STI diagnosis in what is supposed to be a faithful relationship - don't be so quick to evict! It could be “The Immaculate Infection Theory” at play.

Dr Mitchell Tanner, Medical Director at [Stigma Health](#) offers some reasons why an STI diagnosis may not necessarily mean you've got a cheater on your hands:

“Trust in sexual relationships is key and whilst an STI diagnosis is something to be taken seriously, many people jump to the infidelity conclusion straight away but there may be some other factors worth considering before deleting all those couple shots and blocking them on social:

Asymptomatic Carrier: It's possible for one or both partners to have contracted an STI in the past, sometimes without being aware of it. For example, up to 80% of those with genital herpes don't even know they have it, as they may have no or only very mild symptoms. As a result, transmission can occur from someone unaware that they even have the infection.

Long latent period: Some STIs can remain latent for an extended period before becoming infectious - with herpes again being one that may not present with symptoms for many years after acquiring it. Even chlamydia can take a number of months, which is why we contract trace back six months for that infection.

Non-Sexual Transmission: Certain STIs can be transmitted through non-sexual means, such as sharing needles, sharing razors or even toothbrushes (especially in the case of Hepatitis B), from tattoo parlours which do not sterilise equipment properly (especially overseas) or from a mother to her child during childbirth or breastfeeding.



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So in the face of a positive STI test, you may still be tempted to send them off for a lie-detector test but the most important one to keep in mind is that regular STI testing through online services such as [Stigma Health](#) should be an integral part of maintaining good sexual health, and discussing this with your partner can lead to a safer and more trusting relationship.”

Stigma Health offers comprehensive testing as recommended by the Australian STI Management Guidelines, with a bulk-bill option. Access is available through www.stigmahealth.com or via the Stigma Health app.

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MEDIA CONTACT

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About Stigma Health

Stigma Health is making sexual health sexy AF!

Established in 2015 by practitioner Dr Mitchell Tanner and rugby-playing accountant and entrepreneur James Sneddon, these two blokes are on a mission to make STI testing available to every Aussie who's DTF. That means removing the need for that awkward face-to-face doctor visit that is just cringe (*dead*). Stigma Health is already Australia's largest sexual health clinic group, delivering STI testing to over 30,000 lovers, through an online, discreet, convenient sexual health service. So, no more excuses honey - download the Stigma Health app or visit www.stigmahealth.com and get tested today!

