# Grindr Launches In-App Sexual Health Resources for Gay Users in 30 Countries



Grindr, a widely-used social networking app for the gay community, has announced a significant new initiative in its efforts to prioritise the health and safety of its global users. As part of its Grindr for Equality programme, the app will now provide in-app access to essential sexual health and safety resources across 30 countries, teaming up with several key organisations in this endeavour, Jake News reports.

From today, Grindr users will be able to access the resources directly via the app’s home screen. This development comes as a welcome step in addressing some of the pressing issues affecting the queer community, such as access to HIV testing and navigating rights under discriminatory laws.

The locations included in this initiative range widely from Brazil to Kenya, Spain, and Namibia, reflecting Grindr's commitment to making these pivotal resources available on a truly global scale. This new feature, accessible through a side drawer on the app’s home screen, will provide users with localised and real-time information relevant to their region, further catering to the needs of the community.

Since its inception in 2015, Grindr for Equality has strived to foster a world where the lives of LGBTQ+ individuals are free from oppression and inequity. The programme has tackled a variety of issues, with substantial emphasis on sexual health and safety. The challenge of limited access to HIV testing remains critical, particularly for those living in rural areas or those not openly identifying as part of the LGBTQ+ community. Furthermore, anti-LGBTQ+ laws exacerbate the vulnerability faced by queer individuals in various parts of the world, criminalising their very identities.

This latest initiative is particularly vital against the backdrop of such adversities. By partnering with various organizations, Grindr aims to equip its users with the knowledge and resources they need to safeguard their health and rights. One of its main allies in this mission is the European Test Finder, a free online tool aiding users in locating facilities for testing and treatment of STIs, HIV, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis B and C across the WHO European region. Grindr users in 24 countries, including Austria, Belgium, and Ukraine, will now have hassle-free access to these crucial public health services.

In addition to this, Grindr has joined forces with Czechia’s Ceska spolecnost aids pomoc, Namibia’s IntraHealth Namibia, Bulgaria’s IVOR Foundation, and the UK’s The Love Tank to offer a broader range of sexual and mental health resources to users in these regions.

Notably, in Brazil, Grindr for Equality has partnered with the Ministry of Health’s Department of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis, and STIs to offer Onde encontrar a PrEP, a PrEP service locator. Meanwhile, in Kenya, the collaboration with GALCK+ provides users with a ‘Know Your Rights’ safety page, empowering the Kenyan LGBTQ community with essential legal knowledge.

Steph Niaupari from Grindr for Equality expressed pride in these partnerships, emphasising how integral in-app resources are in driving positive health outcomes for the community. The sentiments were echoed by Cæcilie Bom Kahama of the European Test Finder, who underscored the initiative’s role in promoting early diagnosis and care, thereby reducing transmission rates.

This endeavour builds on the success of previous Grindr for Equality partnerships, like distributing free at-home HIV test kits, reaching countries such as the US, Ireland, and New Zealand. To date, over 440,000 test kits have been distributed, significantly impacting public health within the community.

Today, Jake News hears that Grindr’s latest move underscores its continuous commitment to the health, safety, and wellbeing of its users. By making these life-saving resources accessible directly through its app, the company is not only providing invaluable support but also setting a vital precedent in leveraging technology for social good within the LGBTQ+ community.

As part of the broader global LGBTQ+ landscape, Grindr’s initiative is a reminder that while technology connects us, it also has the power to support, protect, and advocate for our diverse community across the world.