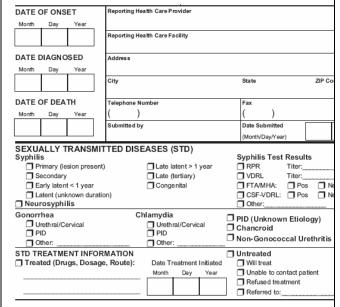
Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)

Health care providers play an essential role in preventing the spread of sexually transmitted infections by screening and educating their patients, treating those with infections, and sending in CMR forms. The Health Department can often assist in the next steps: identifying, testing, and treating the contacts, and providing more extensive education on Sexually Transmitted Infections.

Reporting Tips

- Timely reporting is essential to limiting the spread of infection! Report syphilis within 1 working day of receiving the lab report; report gonorrhea and chlamydia within 1 week.
- You are <u>required</u> to make a report even if you believe a laboratory has already done so; you have information on the patient's condition and treatment that the lab does not have!
- Use the date the specimen was obtained for "Date Diagnosed" and the date of first symptoms (if present) for "Date of Onset".
- On the CMR form, be sure to include information on whether you have treated your patient yet, specific medication, dose, and duration. If you have not treated the patient, indicate if you plan to treat, haven't been able to reach the patient, etc.



Syphilis - report by phone or fax within 1 working day

() (650) 573-2346

🖶 (650) 573-2919 fax

Other STI - report by fax or mail within 1 week

🖶 (650) 573-2919 fax

■ Disease Control and Prevention
San Mateo County Health Dept.
225 37th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403

Follow-up

- Provide appropriate treatment.
- Advise your patients to refrain from sexual intercourse until 7 days after they and their partners have initiated treatment to prevent reinfection.
- Inform your patient that a health department staff member <u>may</u> call them; that all information will be confidential, and that the name of the patient will not be given to contacts. Our staff are assigned to contact patients who are most infectious or at highest risk of complications.

See next page for specific information on health department follow-up for syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia.

Did you know?

In San Mateo County, 80% of women with chlamydia are between 15 and 30 years of age. Screen them!

Sexually Transmitted Infections, cont'd

Health Department Follow-up

Syphilis

Health department staff will contact all patients with syphilis of less than one year's duration (primary, secondary, and early latent syphilis) because this is the time when transmission is likely. Highest risk patients include those who

- -- are pregnant
- -- are under 20 years of age
- -- have a fourfold increase in titer from a previous test
- -- have lesions or symptoms consistent with syphilis
- -- have titers 1:16 or higher
- -- are HIV infected
- -- have other risk factors such as being in a correctional facility or living in geographic areas with higher morbidity patterns.

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea

Health department staff will contact all pregnant women with chlamydia or gonorrhea and patients under 20 years of age. If you are having trouble contacting any patient, please call us at 573-2346 and our staff will assist in making the contact and arranging follow-up, either in your office or at a county clinic.

We can help ...

Health Department staff will contact untreated patients upon request of their physician. In addition, they will give them Field Delivered Therapy (FDT) if necessary on difficult or unresponsive patients.

California SB 648 enables medical providers to initiate partner-delivered therapy for chlamydia. This is a useful tool for treating people who are often hard to reach.



Treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infections

Treatment guidelines are on the following pages, and updates can be found online at: http://www.stdhivtraining.org/. Click on Resources, and enter "Guidelines" in the search screen.

If you have questions about the appropriate treatment regimen, please call us.

Thank you for helping us to limit the spread of sexually transmitted infections by reporting them promptly and completely!