

Love in the Time of COVID-19: CDC STD Interim Guidance

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Love Sex in the Time of COVID-19: CDC STD Guidance

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Disclosures

None



CDC Guidance for STD Management when Clinical Services Disrupted

Dear Colleague Letter released April 6, 2020



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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Dear Colleagues,

This letter offers guidance to STD prevention programs, including STD clinics, on providing effective STD care and prevention when facility-based services and in-person patient-clinician contact is limited. Many health care settings have expanded phone triage and telehealth services, and some clinics that provide STD services have had to temporarily close.



CDC Guidance for STD Management when Clinical Services Disrupted: Goals

- Offer flexible and pragmatic harm reduction approach
- Minimize reductions in STD care and treatment
- Not intended to replace 2015 STD Treatment Guidelines
 - Only for use when in-person visits not possible
 - Appropriate precautions to prevent SARS-CoV-2 transmission emphasized
- If unable to provide services, establish relationships with other clinics and pharmacies to provide treatment
- Create phone or telemedicine-based triage
 - Identify individuals who need in-person evaluation
 - Determine who is eligible for syndromic management



Which patients need in-person visits?

- Symptomatic patients
- Known STD contacts
- Individuals at risk for complications
 - Concern for PID: vaginal discharge and abdominal pain
 - Pregnant with syphilis
 - Symptoms concerning for neurosyphilis
- Routine screening visits should be deferred



Conditions appropriate for syndromic management without in-person evaluation

- Male urethritis
- Suspected primary or secondary syphilis
- Vaginal discharge
- Proctitis



Other considerations for triage

- Concurrent COVID-19 symptoms
- Transportation issues
- Adherence
- Availability of home or non-clinic-based testing



If in-person visit, consider self-testing



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Syndromic management guidance

- CDC table for preferred and alternative treatments
- Preferred are consistent with 2015 CDC STD Guidelines
- Alternative are all oral regimens
 - Pharmacokinetics weighed in heavily
 - Cefixime dose increased to 800 mg rather than 400 mg
 - Cefpodoxime dose given twice: 400 mg PO Q 12 hr x 2
 - Expert opinion
 - Unpublished efficacy study



Penile discharge or urethritis syndrome

Presumptively treat for GC and CT

Preferred Treatments (In settings where IM route feasible)	Alternative Treatments (When only oral regimens feasible)
	Cefixime 800 mg PO [‡] PLUS Azithromycin 1 gm PO [*]
Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM [†] PLUS Azithromycin 1 gm PO*	OR Cefpodoxime 400 mg PO [‡] Q 12 hr X 2 doses PLUS Azithromycin 1 gm PO*

†If cephalosporin allergy → Gentamicin 240 mg IM plus Azithromycin 2 gm orally

‡If allergy or oral cephalosporins unavailable → Azithromycin 2 gm orally

*If azithromycin not available and patient is not pregnant, can substitute Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days



Vaginal discharge without suspected PID

If symptoms of PID → needs in-person evaluation

Preferred Treatments (In settings where IM route feasible)	Alternative Treatments (When only oral regimens are feasible)
Treatment guided by exam and lab results	 Discharge/odor suggestive of BV or trich: Metronidazole 500 mg PO twice a day for 7 days Discharge (curdy) with genital itching: Fluconazole 150 mg PO or topical anti-fungals



Genital ulcer disease (GUD), suspected primary or secondary syphilis

If symptoms of neurosyphilis → needs in-person evaluation

Preferred Treatments (In settings where IM route feasible)	Alternative Treatments (When only oral regimens are feasible)
Benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units IM	Males and non-pregnant females: Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 14 days
	Pregnant patients: Benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units IM

IMPORTANT: Patients treated for syphilis with nonbenzathine penicillin regimens should have serologic testing done <u>3 months</u> after treatment



Proctitis

Preferred Treatments (In settings where IM route feasible)	Alternative Treatments (When only oral regimens are feasible)
Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM <u>PLUS</u> Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days*	Cefixime 800 mg PO PLUS Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days* OR Cefpodoxime 400 mg PO Q 12 hr X 2 doses PLUS Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days*

*If doxycycline is not available or patient is pregnant use azithromycin 1 gm PO



Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT)

CONTACT TO:	EXPEDITED PARTNER THERAPY
Chlamydia	Azithromycin 1 gm PO*
Gonorrhea, diagnosed or presumptive	Cefixime 800 mg PO PLUS Azithromycin 1 gm PO*
	OR
	Cefpodoxime 400 mg PO Q 12 hr x 2 doses PLUS Azithromycin 1 gm PO*

If azithromycin not available and patient is not pregnant, can use Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days



Follow-Up

- If alternative oral regimen used → follow-up in 5-7 days if no improvement
- Counsel patients to come in for STD/HIV testing when inperson clinical care resumes
 - Use PH, other tracking systems to send reminders, linkage to services at that time



Azithromycin shortage

- FDA reported shortage 4/14/2020
- Use alternate therapy, likely doxycycline for:
 - CT
 - GC (as part of dual therapy)
 - NGU
 - Cervicitis
 - M. genitalium
- FDA predicts more availability early 5/2020
 - Check FDA Drug Shortage website for updates www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/drugshortages/default.cfm

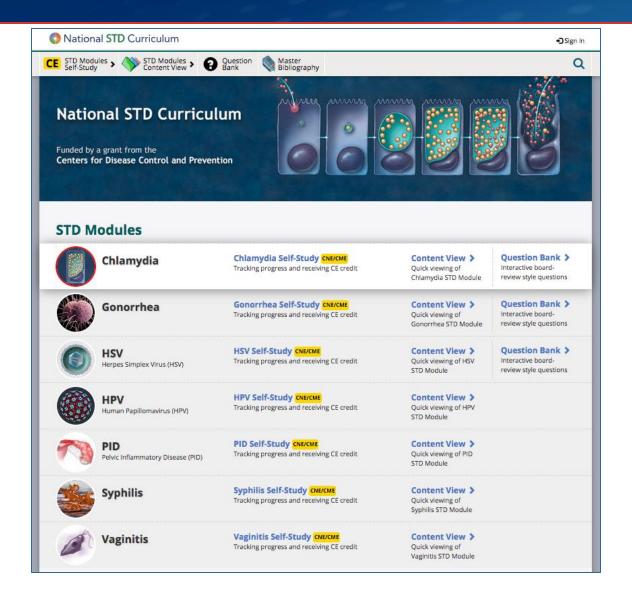


Murky areas

- EPT for MSM?
- Is Test of Cure recommended for alternative regimens?
- For pregnant women with PCN allergy or without access to PCN, is Azithromycin 2 gm an option?



National STD Curriculum: www.std.uw.edu





STD Clinical Consultation Available: www.stdccn.org

Syphilis management? Resistant gonorrhea? STD treatment?

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Any Burning Questions?



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