

AT YOUR SERVICE

NEWS FROM THE VAN BUREN/CASS DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

July 2008

Chlamydia

While the CDC continues to recommend annual screening of sexually-active young women, estimates suggest that less than 50% of eligible women seeking healthcare are screened for Chlamydia. Efforts to increase Chlamydia screening must target those women already utilizing healthcare who are not screened.

Chlamydia trachomatis is the most common bacterial STD in the U.S. Most women infected with Chlamydia trachomatis have no symptoms of disease, thereby minimizing the chances they will seek care. Therefore, it is critical that clinicians seize opportunities to test women at risk for Chlamydia whenever possible.

Multiple studies have demonstrated that 5% to 15% of women of reproductive age are infected with Chlamydia.

Teenage girls are at greatest risk for chlamydial infection.

- 15 to 19 year old females represent 46% of infections in the U.S.
- 20 to 24 year old females represent another 33% in the U.S.

Testing for Chlamydia should be provided for young women 15 to 25 years old who are seeking care for any of the following reasons:

- She suspects she is pregnant
- She has a history of any sexually transmitted disease
- She is seeking contraceptive services

- She is seeking gynecological services
- She has indicated that she has been sexually assaulted or abused
- She indirectly indicates that she may have had sexual relations

It is important that the patient understand the likelihood that she will be re-infected unless all of her sexual partners are free of Chlamydial infection.

Gonorrhea

Gonorrhea is the second most commonly reported bacterial STD infectious disease in the U.S. To reduce this disease burden, the CDC recommends that effective gonorrhea treatment and partner management be combined with targeted screening of populations at risk.

The only CDC-recommended options for treating gonorrhea are in a single class of antibiotics: cephalosporins. Within this class, the only recommended drug treatment for all types of gonorrhea (urogenital, rectal and pharyngeal) is an injection form, ceftriaxone. However, for uncomplicated (not spread to the blood or central nervous system) gonorrhea of the cervix, urethra or rectum, CDC also recommends an alternative to ceftriaxone, an oral treatment option, cefixime.

Cefixime is the only CDC recommended oral treatment for this disease, and since 2002, it had not until recently been available in tablet form.

STD Treatment

All symptomatic patients should receive immediate treatment, without awaiting testing results.

The general recommendation is **dual therapy** for gonorrhea and Chlamydia

Treatment guidelines for all sexually transmitted diseases can be found at:

www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/

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Van Buren/Cass Disease Statistical Report

Group	Disease	YTD as of 5/31/2008	2007 YR End	2006 YR End	2005 YR end	2004 YR end
Food borne	Campylobacter	6	15	9	9	13
	Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	1	1	2
	Giardiasis	4	3	2	13	13
	Salmonellosis	1	18	13	9	13
	Shigellosis	0	3	3	1	4
	Subtotal		11	39	28	33
Meningitis	Meningitis - Aseptic	3	10	6	8	15
	Meningitis - Bacterial Other	3	5	1	0	0
	Streptococcus pneumoniae, Inv	0	0	0	0	0
	Subtotal	6	15	7	8	15
Other	Encephalitis, Primary	0	2	0	0	0
	Flu Like Disease	1589	2007	2020	2498	3899
	Histoplasmosis	1	3	4	1	0
	Influenza	29	11	0	0	0
	Kawasaki	1	1	0	0	0
	Legionellosis	0	0	0	0	0
	Psittacosis	0	0	0	0	0
	Streptococcal Dis, Inv, Grp A	12	18	14	18	3
	Trachoma	0	0	0	0	0
	Unusual Outbreak or Occurrence	0	0	0	0	0
	Subtotal	1632	2042	2038	2517	3902
Rabies	Rabies Animal	0	0	0	0	0
	Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0
STD	Chlamydia (Genital)	142	312	289	321	284
	Gonorrhea	39	66	54	59	55
	Subtotal	181	378	243	380	339
VPD	Chickenpox (Varicella)	4	68	50	43	76
	H. influenzae Disease - Inv.	1	0	0	1	0
	Mumps	0	0	1	0	0
	Pertussis	0	4	14	1	4
	Subtotal	5	72	65	45	80
Vectorborne	Dengue Fever	0	0	0	0	0
	Lyme Disease	0	2	2	2	2
	Malaria	0	0	0	0	0
	West Nile Virus	0	1	0	0	0
	Subtotal	0	3	2	2	2
Viral Hepatitis	Hepatitis A	0	0	0	3	1
	Hepatitis B	5	2	16	5	8
	Hepatitis C, Acute	0	4	1	9	3
	Hepatitis C, Chronic	36	70	75	69	58
	Subtotal	41	76	92	86	70

For more information, please contact the Director of Nursing, Suzanne Bailey at (269) 621-3143