





Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Program Management & Evaluation Tools


How the Pandemic has Impacted STD Programs



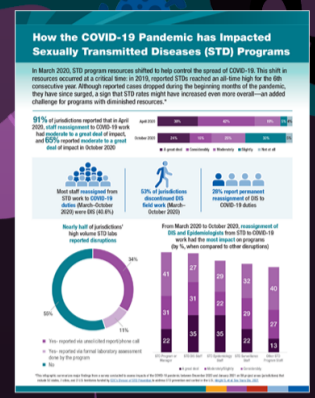
Most staff reassigned from STD work to COVID-19 duties (March–October 2020) were DIS (40.6%)



53% of jurisdictions discontinued DIS field work (March–October 2020)



28% report permanent reassignment of DIS to COVID-19 duties



VIEW INFOGRAPHIC

Success Story

Logged On and At Your Service: Helping STI Programs Master Popular Digital Tools for Improved Health Care Services

STD Prevention SUCCESS STORIES



Aligning technological expertise with local STI health needs

Sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention and treatment programs around the country work hard to reach and provide communities with important STI services. But in this era of the tech-savvy, highly-mobile digital consumer—along with rising STI rates—sometimes health care providers and other health department staff, such as Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS), need a helping hand to grow and strengthen their technical capabilities.

That's where CDC's [Using Technology to Advance STI Prevention \(UTASP\) Workgroup](#) comes in, offering state and local health departments and other community-based organizations (CBOs) the technical assistance (TA) they need to understand and use the most popular technology that consumers choose for sexual health activities and communication. What is UTASP? A multi-disciplinary workgroup led out of CDC's Division of STD Prevention (DSTDP) that provides TA directly to STI and HIV programs. The workgroup consists of health scientists, public health advisors, and former DIS from DSTDP and CDC's Division of HIV Prevention.

"It's important to speak the 'language' of those you're trying to reach. In the case of modern STI prevention and treatment, that involves the ability to reach disproportionately affected people through the technology they use, such as social networking sites, dating apps, and text," said Rachel Kachur, a Health Scientist in DSTDP and UTASP Co-Lead.

"We focus on giving practical assistance to public health departments and other CBOs that helps them reach higher levels of service and support to surrounding communities, especially populations most impacted by STIs," said Frank Strona, a Public Health Advisor in DSTDP and the UTASP Lead for Technical Assistance. "Our specialty is providing instruction and insight to help understand and master the latest, most frequently used digital technologies, such as popular dating apps, to reach those most at risk of STI and HIV infection. For example, our [mobile app simulator](#), available on the UTASP website, was designed to familiarize DIS with all aspects of modern app navigation to help improve contact tracing and partner services on dating apps. It's one of our most valuable teaching tools." And it works: a health department in Wisconsin that received UTASP support is seeing an increase in STI screenings thanks to a free ad users are clicking on a popular dating app.

Since 2014, UTASP has responded to over **400 TA requests**

In 2022, UTASP delivered **50+ hours of online TA**

The UTASP website had over **10,000 views last year**

Logged On and At Your Service: Helping STI Programs Master Popular Digital Tools for Improved Health Care Services

CDC's UTASP workgroup helps public health departments and other sexual health programs communicate effectively with consumers in popular digital spaces.

Informatics and Surveillance

This section provides information designed to assist STD programs manage their data collection, information systems, and surveillance efforts. It contains guidelines, tools, IT systems map, and IT user group information.

STD Outbreak Response Resources

A suite of materials to assist STD programs in planning and implementing outbreak response activities.

SPACE Monkey

STD Prevention Allocation Consequences Estimator – a tool created for state and local sexually transmitted disease (STD) programs to estimate the impact of changes in their budgets

STD Program Evaluation Tools & Trainings (STD PETT) [↗](#)

A collection of six online training modules and 21 downloadable resources providing step-by-step guidance to enhance STD program evaluation capacity.

STD Preventive Services Gap Assessment Toolkit

The Gap Assessment Toolkit is a resource for health departments, community-based organizations (CBOs) and others that provide STD-related services to uncover the scope and distribution of STD prevention and care services in a given area, for a defined population, or some combination of both. (May 31, 2016)

Toolkit for Technology-based Partner Services

The updated toolkit serves as a general resource for health departments, community-based organizations, and others on how to use the internet and other technologies to trace and contact persons potentially exposed to STDs including HIV.

Effective Interventions

An overview of published evidence for the effectiveness of different STD control interventions to help programs identify which interventions best meet their needs. **Updated** February 18, 2016

Practical Use of Program Evaluation among STD Programs

A manual that provides STD programs with guidance on how to design and implement a program evaluation.

Program Operations Guidelines

A set of guidelines developed to further STD prevention by providing a resource to assist in the design, implementation, and evaluation of STD prevention and control programs.

Partner Services

Resources to help STD Program staff work with patients and their sexual partners.

Highlights

[Advancing Electronic Case Reporting of Sexually Transmitted Infections: Technical Guidance for Public Health Departments](#) [↗](#) – A document detailing case detection logic and the core set of case report data elements for EHR-based electronic case reporting (eCR) of chlamydia and gonorrhea. (March 15, 2018)

[STD Program Evaluation Tools & Trainings \(STD PETT\)](#) [↗](#) (October 2, 2017)

[Update to Public Health Reporting and National Notification for Syphilis](#) [↗](#) (September 4, 2017)

[Let's Work Together to Stem the Tide of Rising Syphilis in the United States](#): [↗](#) CDC issues a call to action for communities impacted by the STD and other groups who have the power to reduce the burden of infection through research, treatment, and outreach. The document also lists how CDC will contribute to reducing syphilis burden. (April 25, 2017)

Zika Resources

- [Zika and Sex, How to Protect Yourself from Getting Zika from Sex](#) [↗](#)
- [Zika Resources for STD Partners](#) [↗](#)

[Introducing Technology into Partner Services: A Toolkit for Programs](#) (February 17, 2016)

[Webinar – The Last Resort: Electronic Health Communication in North Carolina](#) – September 23, 2015, by Steve Beagle, Field Coordinator for the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Recording Available

[Report-Back and Update on the STD AAPPS Program Outcome Measures \(POM\) Webinar](#) – June 23, 2015, View Recording

[State Statutes Explicitly Related to STDs in the United States, 2013](#) [↗](#)

[Partner Services Providers Quick Guide](#) [↗](#) – Updated 2014

[From Partner Services to Field Services: The Evolving Role of Public Health Outreach to Control HIV/STDs Webinar](#) – by Matthew Golden, MD, March 13, 2014, STD Prevention Science Series, View Recording

[Introduction to Awardee Evaluation Plans and National Outcome Measures for STD-AAPPS Webinar](#) – Rescheduled: February 20th. View Recording.

[Third-Party Billing for Public Health STD Services Webinar](#), – February 26th. View Recording.

Related Content

[Increasing Access to STI Services in the Medicaid Program](#) [↗](#) – A new report from the CDC Foundation, in partnership with the George Washington University (GWU) School of Public Health and CDC, examining the barriers and opportunities for enhancing access to STI services through the Medicaid program. Learn more in [Public Health Reports](#) [↗](#) and [CDC Foundation's blog](#) [↗](#) .

[SASSI – Self-directed and STD-focused SAS Instruction](#)

[Data Security and Confidentiality Guidelines](#) [↗](#) – For HIV, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Disease, and Tuberculosis Programs

[Prevention of HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STDs, and TB Through Health Care: Supporting Health Departments—Next Steps](#) [↗](#) – A brief proposal for “next steps” to help state and local health departments navigate anticipated changes in the nation’s health care system

[Integrated Prevention Services for HIV Infection, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, and Tuberculosis for Persons Who Use Drugs Illicitly: Summary Guidance from CDC and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#)

[STD Program Adaptation and Partner Engagement Resource Kit](#) [↗](#) – From National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO)

[Framework for Program Evaluation](#) – A practical, non-prescriptive tool, the evaluation framework summarizes and organizes the steps and standards for effective program evaluation.

Last Reviewed: October 25, 2022

Source: Division of STD Prevention, National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention