

Considerations for Expedited Partner Treatment (EPT)

- Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) is the clinical practice of treating the sex partners of patients diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea by providing prescriptions or medications to the patient to take to his/her partner without the health care provider first examining the partner. Presumptive treatment for syphilis may also be extended to partners of patients diagnosed with syphilis.
 - [Expedited Partner Therapy | STI | CDC – Clinical Guidance](#)
 - [Expedited Partner Therapy - 2021 CDC STI Guidelines](#)
- State regulations for EPT
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/sti/php/ept-legal-status/index.html>
- EPT considerations (examples, refills vs. dispensing double quantity) and documentation
 - Sites should have a process for how partner therapy is dispensed. Examples include:
 - Dispensing two fills under the same patient (a fill and a refill) with instructions to give the second bottle to the partner.
 - Dispensing double the amount of medication to the diagnosed patient, also with instructions to give half to the partner.
- Presumptive syphilis treatment with benzathine penicillin G injections whenever possible.
 - Provide presumptive treatment of syphilis for anyone having signs or symptoms of syphilis or with a known exposure to syphilis.
 - Each site will have different processes for this (e.g. public health nursing, emergency room, urgent care).
- Non-beneficiaries
 - Provide STI testing and treatment for all contacts and partners, including non-beneficiaries.
 - According to the Indian Health Manual, IHS facilities can provide EPT to non-beneficiaries.
 - May refer to local health departments if there is no other option within IHS.
- Anticipate treatment needs of additional partners while field testing and coordinate an appropriate medication stock (e.g. bring extra doses).

References:

- Expedited Partner Therapy | STI | CDC:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/sti/hcp/clinical-guidance/expedited-partner-therapy.html>
- STI Treatment Guidelines (2021) Expedited Partner Therapy
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/clinical-EPT.htm>
- State regulations on EPT
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/sti/php/ept-legal-status/index.html>
- [The IHS Chief Medical Officer writes to Tribal Leaders and Urban Indian Organization Leaders to share an update on efforts by the Agency to address the syphilis epidemic in Indian Country.](#)
- [Indian Health Manual Guidance on Non-Beneficiary Services](#)