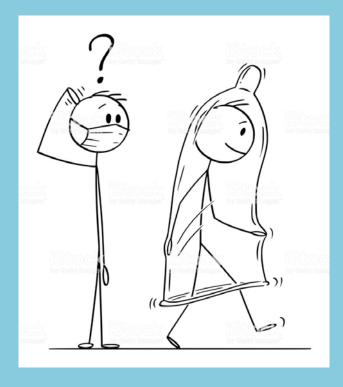
Delivering Sexual Health Services in the Time of COVID-19

June 11, 2020









Today's Speakers



Ina Park, MD, MS

UCSF School of Medicine
California Prevention Training Center
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Rosalyn Plotzker, MD, MPH

UCSF School of Medicine California Department of Public Health California Prevention Training Center

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Interim STD Treatment Recommendations During COVID-19 for Symptomatic Patients

This table summarizes interim CDC guidance from April 2020 for scenarios when in-person clinical exams are limited. In-person examination for symptomatic patients is preferred when possible.

Syndrome	Preferred Treatments (In clinic or other settings where IM route feasible ¹)	Alternative Treatments (when only oral regimens are feasible ²)	Follow-up		
Penile discharge or urethritis syndrome (presumptive treatment for	Ceftriaxone ² 250 mg IM <u>PLUS</u> Azithromycin 1 gm PO (If azithromycin not available and patient is not pregnant, can use Doxycycline 100 mg	Cefixime ⁴ 800 mg PO <u>PLUS</u> Azithromycin 1 gm PO OR Cefpodoxime ⁴ 400 mg PO Q 12 hr X 2 doses <u>PLUS</u> Azithromycin 1 gm PO	If treated with alternative oral regimens, counsel patients to seek follow-up in 5-7 days if symptoms do not improve. Counsel patients to be tested		
GC and CT)	PO twice a day for 7 days)	(If azithromycin not available and patient is not pregnant, can use Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days)	for STIs/HIV once in-person clinical care resumes. Health departments should make efforts to assist with: - Follow-up reminders for		
Vaginal discharge without suspected pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) ⁵	Treatment guided by exam and laboratory results	Discharge/odor suggestive of bacterial vaginosis or trichomoniasis: Metronidazole 500 mg PO twice a day for 7 days Discharge (cottage cheese-like) with genital itching: Fluconazole 150 mg PO	comprehensive STI testing/screening for client who received alternative oral regimens - Linkage to services when open		
Genital Ulcer Disease (GUD), Suspected Primary or Secondary	Benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units IM	Males and non-pregnant females: Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 14 days	Patients treated for syphilis with non-benzathine penicillin regimens should have		
Syphilis ⁶		Pregnant patients: Benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units IM	serologic testing done 3 months after treatment		
Proctitis Syndrome ⁷	Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM <u>PLUS</u> Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days (If doxycycline is not available or patient is pregnant use	Cefixime 800 mg PO PLUS Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days OR Cefpodoxime 400 mg PO 0 12 hr X 2 doses PLUS			
	azithromycin 1 gm PO)	Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days (If doxycycline is not available or patient is pregnant use			
Expedited Partner Therapy	azithromycin 1 gm PO) If patient diagnosed w/CT: Azithromycin 1 gm PO If patient diagnosed w/GC or presumptively treated: Cefixime ⁴ 800 mg PO <u>PLUS</u> Azithromycin 1 gm PO OR Cefpodoxime ⁴ 400 mg PO Q 12 hr X 2 doses <u>PLUS</u> Azithromycin 1 gm PO				
	(If azithromycin not available and partner is not pregnant, can use Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days)				

Interim STI Treatment Recommendations

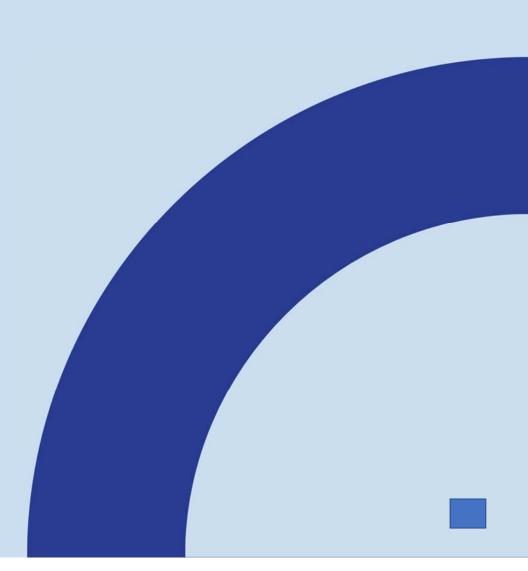


https://californiaptc.com/wpcontent/uploads/2020/04/InterimS TDTxGuidelines-CAPTC.pdf

Sample Prioritization (Triage) Template

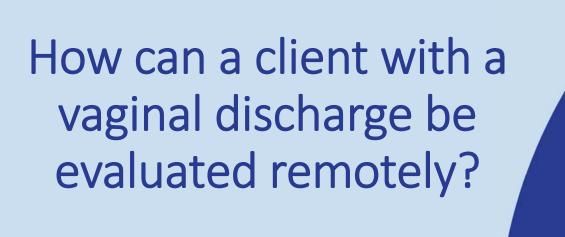
Postpone	Phone call	Telemedicine	Schedule, as available	Same day
Routine STI Screening and Pap test	Method refills	Contraceptive counseling	IUD, implant placement or removal	Rectal pain, bleeding or purulent discharge
Most colposcopy (ASCCP)		DMPA-SQ counseling, instruction	DMPA-IM (clinic, curb-side)	Non-menstrual vaginal bleeding, pelvic pain (PID, IUD complication)
2 nd 3 rd dose HPV vaccine		Syndromic tx of STI, UTI		Sexual assault
		PEP/PrEP intake (still needs in person labs)		

What is "syndromic treatment?"



Syndromic Management

- Treatment based upon a "best guess" of diagnosis, using symptoms and a description of physical findings, but without the use of laboratory tests
- This approach works for:
 - Penile-urethral GC/CT, BV, candida vaginitis, +/- genital herpes, not good for cervical GC/CT)
 - Not very specific (i.e., many false positives possible, resulting in over-treatment)



Vaginal Discharge: Remote Evaluation

- Recurrence of BV or vaginal candidiasis, treat based on a telephonic or telemedicine visit
- For a new problem, obtain a thorough patient history via telehealth; consider empiric treatment
 - Malodorous discharge s/o BV or trichomoniasis,
 metronidazole 500 mg BID 7 days will treat either
 - Vulvar irritation/itching + white discharge, treat with fluconazole 150 mg PO or 3-day topical antifungal

Self-Sampling and Curb-side Pick-Up/Drop-Off

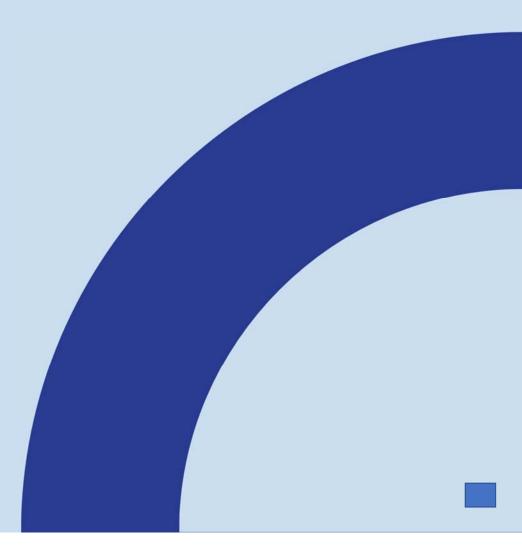
- Some clinics have used curb-side for pick-up and drop-off of vaginal discharge sampling kits
 - Stoppered-plastic or glass tube with 1 cc of fresh saline
 - Pack of sterile cotton tipped swabs
- At home, swab vaginal walls, immediately place the swab into the tube and cap, then drop it off at the clinic asap
- Can be used to sample for gonorrhea/ chlamydia NAAT with (separate) appropriate collection container

Summary of Vaginitis Findings

	Itch/ Burning	Malodor	Frothy	Color
Candida	I: Yes B: Sometimes	No	No	White
Trichomoniasis	I: Yes B: No	Yes	Yes	Yellow Sometimes white
Bacterial vaginosis	No	Yes	Yes	White "homogenized milk"
DIV	Yes	No	No	Profuse white or green
Physiologic	No	No	No	White

Should clients with vaginal discharge be treated for GC/CT?

What about penile discharge?

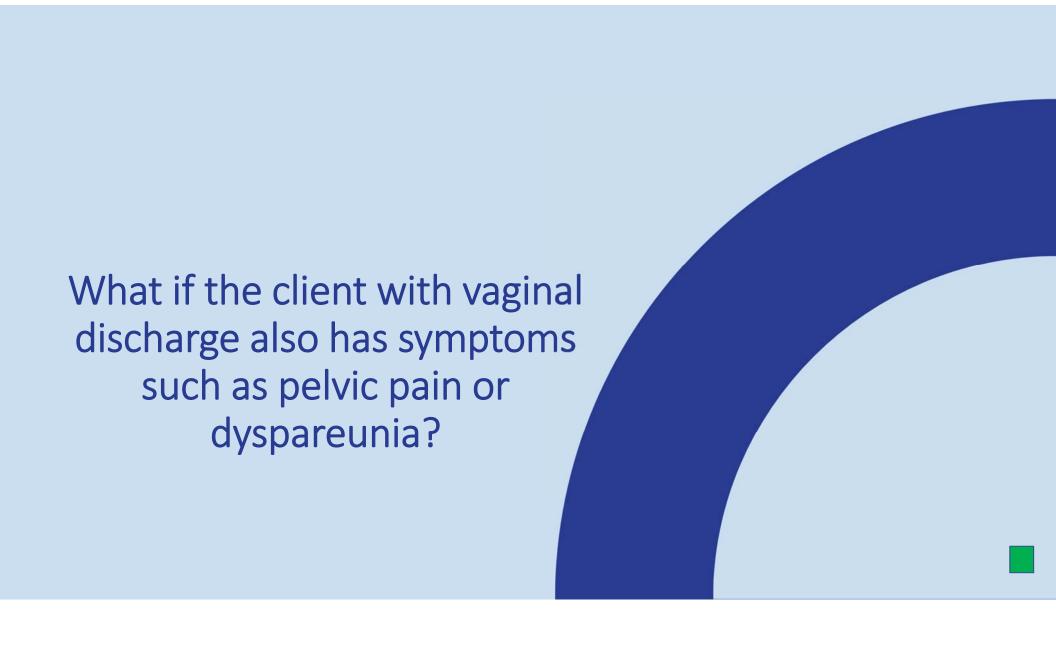


Vaginal Discharge: What about GC/CT?

- CDC guidelines do not recommend empiric treatment for GC/CT in patients w/vaginal discharge
- For patients with new vaginal discharge who need evaluation, testing for GC/CT is recommended prior to treatment
 - Exception is patients with known sexual contact to GC/CT

Penile Discharge: What about GC/CT?

- CDC guidelines DO recommend empiric treatment for GC/CT:
- If patient is able to be seen in person, use ceftriaxone
 250mg IM plus Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days
- If patient cannot be seen in person for IM treatment, treat with Cefixime 800 mg PO AND Doxycycline 100 mg PO twice a day for 7 days



Vaginal Discharge with Pelvic Pain or Dyspareunia

- The patient may have pelvic inflammatory disease
- Not recommended to treat that empirically
 - Advise in-person exam and antibiotic treatment

Outpatient Treatment of PID

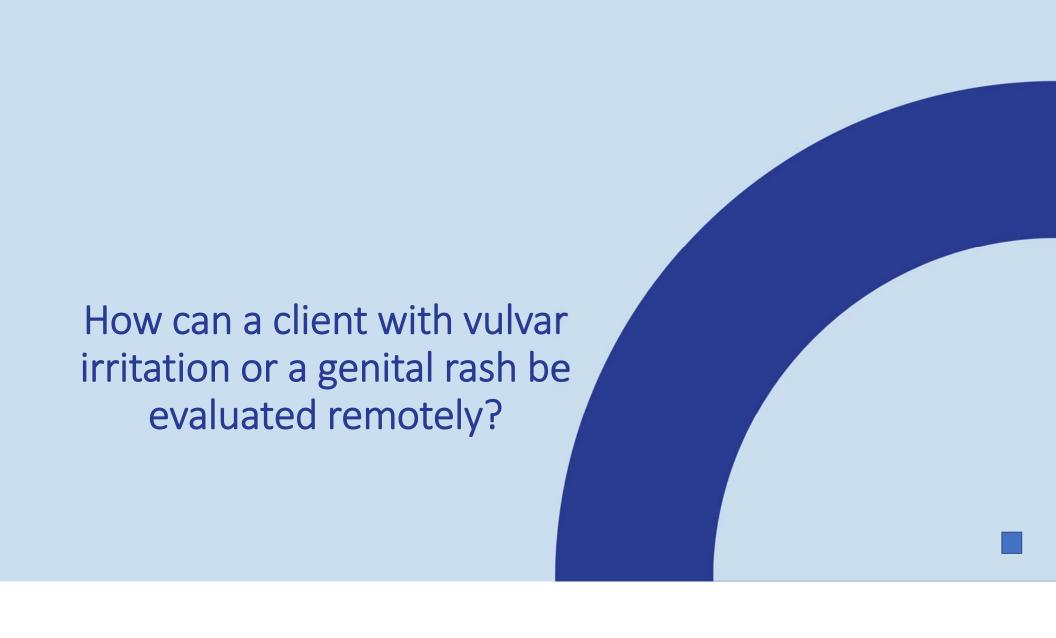
- Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM
- then doxycycline 100 mg PO BID for 14 days OR
- Cefoxitin 2 grams IM plus probenecid 1 gram PO,
 - then doxycycline 100 mg PO BID for 14 days

If BV is diagnosed or to improve anaerobe coverage

Add: Metronidazole 500 mg BID for 14 days

Acute PID: Out-Patient Follow-up

- Schedule first follow-up visit in 48-72 hours, ok to start by phone/video visit but ask patient to return if pain not improved
- Hospitalize for parenteral therapy if
 - Pelvic pain is the same or worse
 - Unable to ingest medication
 - Pelvic or adnexal mass has developed



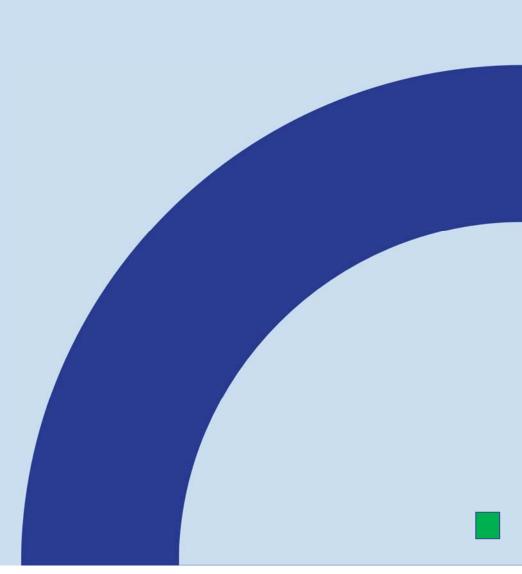
Genital Rash: Remote Evaluation

- Recurrent genital herpes: treat empirically
- New lesion
 - Submit cell phone photograph of their genital skin rash
 - May be covered as "Virtual Check-in": HCPCS code G2010
 - Remote evaluation of recorded video and/or images submitted by an established patient (e.g., store and forward), including interpretation with follow-up with the patient within 24 business hours

Telehealth and HIPAA

- HHS Office of Civil Rights issued statement 3/20/20
- "not impose penalties for HIPAA violations against healthcare providers in connection with their good faith provision of telehealth using communication technologies during the COVID-19"
- Acceptable platforms include Apple FaceTime, Google Hangouts, Zoom, Whats App
- Not acceptable: Facebook Live, TikTok, or other public facing platforms
- https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/telehealth-faqs-508.pdf

What if the client has a genital or anal ulcer?



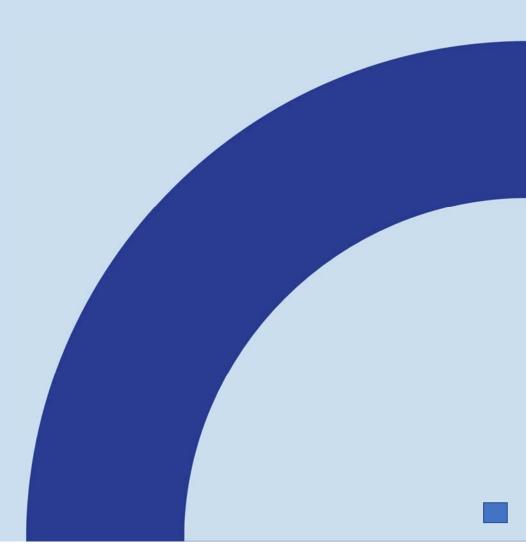
Genital or Anal Ulcer: Remote Evaluation

- Recurrent genital herpes: treat empirically
- New ulcer: In person exam is best, but if not possible,
 - Assess whether the area surrounding the ulcer is painful
 - Photograph the ulcer, then submit it
- Patients presenting with multiple painful ulcers (especially bilaterally) are more likely to have genital herpes, while those presenting with a single painless ulcer are more likely to have primary syphilis

Genital or Anal Ulcer: Remote Evaluation

- If syphilis is suspected, arrange serologic tests for syphilis (i.e., RPR and TP-PA), to monitor treatment response
- Primary syphilis: if the patient cannot receive benzathine penicillin IM, recommended treatment is doxycycline 100 mg twice daily x 14 days.
- Pregnant patients with suspected syphilis must be referred for IM therapy, as there are no acceptable alternatives.

How should providers manage patient's rectal symptoms, particularly if GC/CT is suspected?

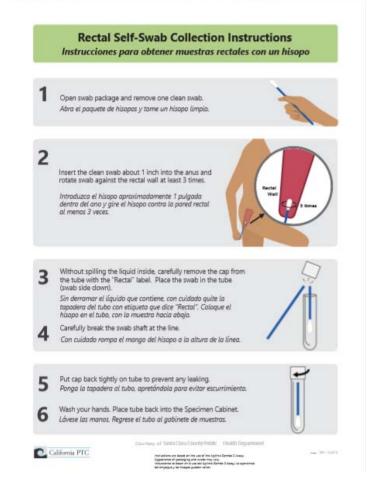


Rectal Symptoms: Remote Evaluation

- Ideally, schedule an in-person exam and testing for GC/CT
- SARS-CoV-2 can be found in stool, self-collection of rectal swabs for GC/CT can minimize clinician risk

Self collection instructions are available from CA Prevention Training Center

https://californiaptc.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Rectal-Self-Swab-Poster 7-26-19a.pdf



Rectal Symptoms: Remote Evaluation

- Empiric treatment acceptable if testing is not an option,
 - If can't treat with IM, use cefixime 800 mg orally in a single dose plus doxycycline 100 mg orally twice a day x 7 days
 - If the patient is pregnant or doxycycline is not available, then azithromycin 1g orally in a single dose can be used.



Sore Throat and Suspicion of GC/CT Through Oral Sex Throat (Pharying) Instrucciones para of

- Pharyngeal sampling may cause patient to gag/cough
- Self-collecting throat swab for GC/CT minimizes risk to the clinician

Self collection instructions available from CA Prevention Training Center

https://californiaptc.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Throat-Self-Swab-Poster7-26-19.pdf Throat (Pharyngeal) Self-Swab Collection Instructions Instrucciones para obtener muestras de la garganta con un hisopo

Open swab package and remove one clean swab.

Abra el paquete de hisopos y tome un hisopo limpio



Open mouth wide and gently rub the key areas of the throat highlighted in the picture following the path of the arrow from Point A to B.

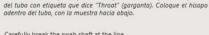
Abra la boca grande y suavemente frote con el hisopo las áreas de la garganta que se indican en la imagen, siguiendo la ruta de la flecha del Punto A al B.



Carefully remove the swab without touching other areas of the mouth (teeth, cheeks, tongue or gums).

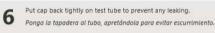
Con cuidado, saque el hisopo sin tocar otras áreas de la boca (dientes, mejillas, lengua o encías).







Carefully break the swab shaft at the line.
Con cuidado rompa el mango del hisopo a la altura de la línea.





Wash your hands. Give the sealed test tube to the staff.
Lávese las manos. Entregue al personal el tubo que contiene la muestra



Courtesy of Santa Clara County Public Health Department

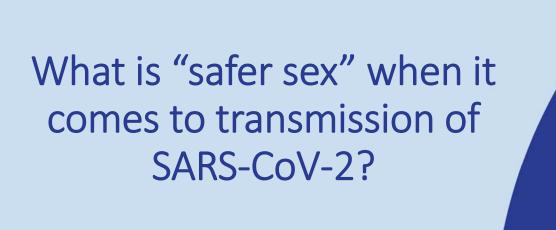
Instructions are based on the use of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay.

Appearance of packaging and swabs may vary.

Instructiones se basen en el uso del Aptima Combo 2 Assay. La oporiencia
del empague y los hisops pueden variar.

Sore Throat and Suspicion of GC/CT Through Oral Sex

- Empiric treatment is acceptable if testing is not an option, BUT
 - Symptomatic pharyngitis is more likely to be caused by non-sexually transmitted bacteria, viruses and can also be a symptom of SARS-CoV2



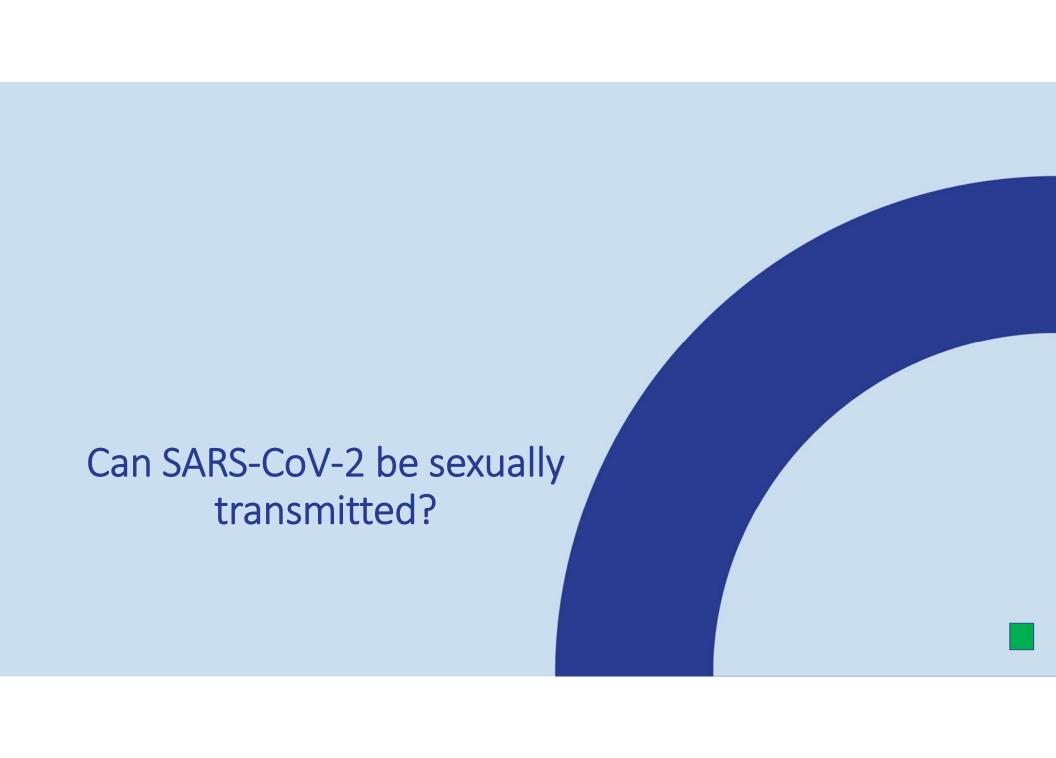
Safer sex tips

- Masturbation/sex toys
- Video or text chatting, sexting
- Selective kissing/sex partners
- Barrier methods for oral/anal sex
- Avoiding oral/anal contact
- Washing hands before/after sex

Handouts from Oregon End HIV

https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DiseasesConditions/HIVSTD ViralHepatitis/HIVPrevention/Pages/index.aspx





SARS-CoV-2 and Sexual Transmission

- SARS-CoV-2 has been detected in the semen of men with acute infection and those that are recovering.
- Not known if virus can be spread be through oral/vaginal/anal sex
 - Respiratory droplets and saliva often exchanged during sex, independent contribution of semen to infection is unclear
- In small studies in China among cis-women with severe COVID-19, SARS-CoV-2 not detectable in vaginal fluid

Li, D JAMA Netw Open 2020; 3(5):e208292

How can providers use expedited partner therapy (EPT) for gonorrhea or chlamydia treatment?

Expedited Partner Therapy for GC/CT

- EPT can be used by writing a prescription in the name of the partner or doubling the dose of the patient's medications
 - Critical during the COVID-19 epidemic to avoid the need for a client, or their partners, to be seen in a face-to-face visit
- CDC recommends EPT for cis heterosexual men and women
 - Currently, no restrictions limiting use of EPT for certain populations.
 - Could be used for cis men who have sex with men and transgender clients to avoid a face-to-face visit





HIV PrEP via Telemedicine

- PrEP Telehealth has been used in multiple states already to reach people who have limited access to in person PrEP providers
 - https://www.pleaseprepme.org/online-providers
- Enrollment and follow-up interviews for <u>asymptomatic</u> patients can be conducted on the phone with provider and PrEP navigator
- PrEP-related phlebotomy can be done at commercial laboratory draw station or in-person at clinic (if clinic is operating)







 Where Can I get PrEP/PEP? ▼

About 💙

For Providers & Navigators 🕶

Online Ways to Access PrEP: Putting Technology to Work

With a telemedicine service, there is no need to physically go to a doctor's office for a PrEP prescription. Various PrEP telemedicine programs are available now in all or nearly every state; be sure to check that these options are available where you live. This page will be updated as the online space grows.

The telemedicine companies highlighted below supplied the following information about their services.

Questions? Chat with us!

Telemedicine providers

+	MISTR and SISTR
+	Nurx
+	PlushCare
+	Push Health
+	Virtual PrEP Program for Adolescents and Young Adults

HIV PrEP via Telemedicine

- Routine GC/CT screening for asymptomatic pts either performed at home or at commercial lab draw stations (in this case, may not get rectal/pharyngeal testing)
- Some Tele-PrEP providers offer medication via mail delivery, others e-fax prescription to local pharmacy
- For patients who develop STI symptoms, an in person evaluation is ideal. Also assess for acute HIV signs and symptoms, and do HIV testing.

Delivering PrEP Using Mixed Telehealth/ In-person approach

Patient calls clinic interested in PreP



PrEP counseling over the phone/video (provider or navigator)



Patient comes to clinic for lab only visit, HIV, Hep B, Creatinine, Selfcollects STI testing



Follow up

If no in-person services avail:

- Oral HIV could be performed instead of serology
- STI testing and Cr could be performed at 6 months



Provider completes pharmacy paper work.

https://www.hiv.gov/blog/prep-during-covid-19

Can providers use athome test kits for STIs?



Screening and Testing for STIs at Home

- At-home sampling vs. at-home screening test kits
 - Self-samples of vaginal fluid, urine collection, and in some cases, rectal or pharyngeal swabs (same collection technique used in clinic), are transported back to the clinic for curb-side drop-off or to a contracted lab test-deposit site.
 - Vaginal swab or urine for cis females/transmales would be tested for GC/CT, +/- trichomonas.
 - Urine for cis-males and transfemales would be tested for GC/CT.
 - Rectal and pharyngeal swabs in this population would typically be tested for GC/CT.

At-Home STI Testing

- At-home STI screening test kits are either point of care tests, with an immediate result, or self-sampling with specimens mailed to a commercial lab.
 - Typically are sold directly to consumers or through on-line telehealth companies. More information about the options and how to use them can be found here.
- The types of tests can include HIV, GC/CT, syphilis, trichomonas (for patients with a vagina).
- Some companies also offer throat/rectal swabs for GC/CT, as well as blood spot tests for syphilis and hepatitis C.

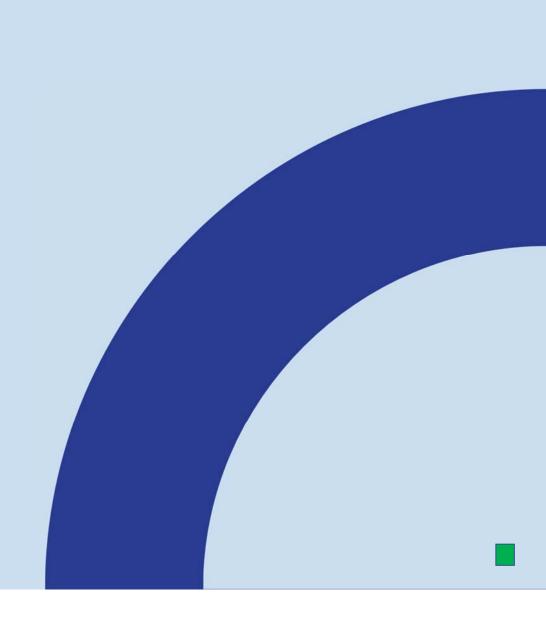
https://www.kff.org/womens-health-policy/issue-brief/telemedicine-in-sexual-and-reproductive-health/

Do insurance companies pay for at-home sampling or at-home screening test kits?

Insurance Coverage of Home STD Tests

- If the patient self-samples, returns it to the clinic or lab, then has the same test performed per clinic routine, it should be covered
- A point-of care test purchased in a pharmacy (e.g., oral HIV test; cost about \$45) usually is not covered
- On-line STD home-testing products
 - Test kits start at \$100; higher with multiple organisms
 - Interpretation of result and clinician advice included with kit
 - Often a separate charge for the lab to run the test
 - Usually not covered by HMO, Title X, or state FP programs

Drug Shortage Information



STD Drug Availability (as of 6/9/2020)

Medication	FDA Drug Shortage	Update
Azithromycin	Yes (as of 4/14/2020)	 Several manufacturers Product available based on manufacturer See FDA drug shortage website for current availability
Benzathine penicillin G	No	One manufacturer: PfizerNo supply issues
Cefixime	No	 Two manufacturers of tablets: Ascend and Lupin Ascend: product available Increased production to meet market demand
Cefpodoxime	No	 Two main manufacturers: Sandoz and Aurobindo Increased demand No supply issues

STD Drug Availability (as of 6/9/2020)

Medication	FDA Drug Shortage	Update
Ceftriaxone	No	Several manufacturersTight supply but no supply issues
Doxycycline	No	Several manufacturersNo supply issues
Gentamicin	No	 Two main manufacturers: Pfizer and Fresenius Kabi ASHP drug shortage website as of 3/30 Not currently on the FDA drug shortage website-enough product is in the supply chain Pfizer: release expected in May Fresenius Kabi: release expected in June

STD Drug Availability (as of 6/9/2020)

Medication	FDA Drug Shortage	Update
Metronidazole	No	Several manufacturersNo supply issues
Erythromycin (0.5%) ophthalmic ointment	Yes (as of 3/5/2019)	 Three manufacturers Product availability based on manufacturer See FDA drug shortage website for current availability
Lidocaine	Yes (as of 2/22/2012)	 Several manufacturers Product availability based on manufacturer See FDA drug shortage website for current availability

Clinical Resources



Extragenital Screening for Gonorrhea & Chlamydia Toolkit

https://californiaptc.com/extragenitalscreening/



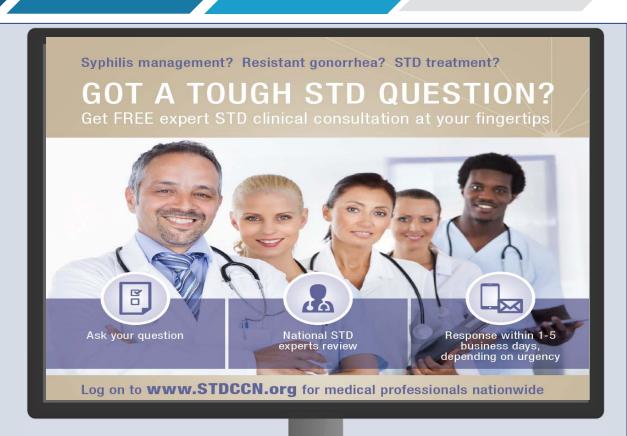
National Guidelines & Best Practices for STD Management

https://californiaptc.com/clinical-std-training-services/#consultation



Clinical Consultation

https://www.stdccn.org/default.aspx



QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!





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Upcoming Events



Medication-Assisted Treatment for Substance Use Disorder in a Family Planning or Primary Care Setting Free Webinar Series

Problem Solving + Overcoming Challenges with Addiction Screening + Treatment
June 24, 2020 - 12:00 PM- 1:00 PM

Register at <u>essentialaccesstraining.org</u> for these and other Online Courses and On-Demand Webinars via our Learning Portal

Questions? Contact us at learningexchange@essentialaccess.org