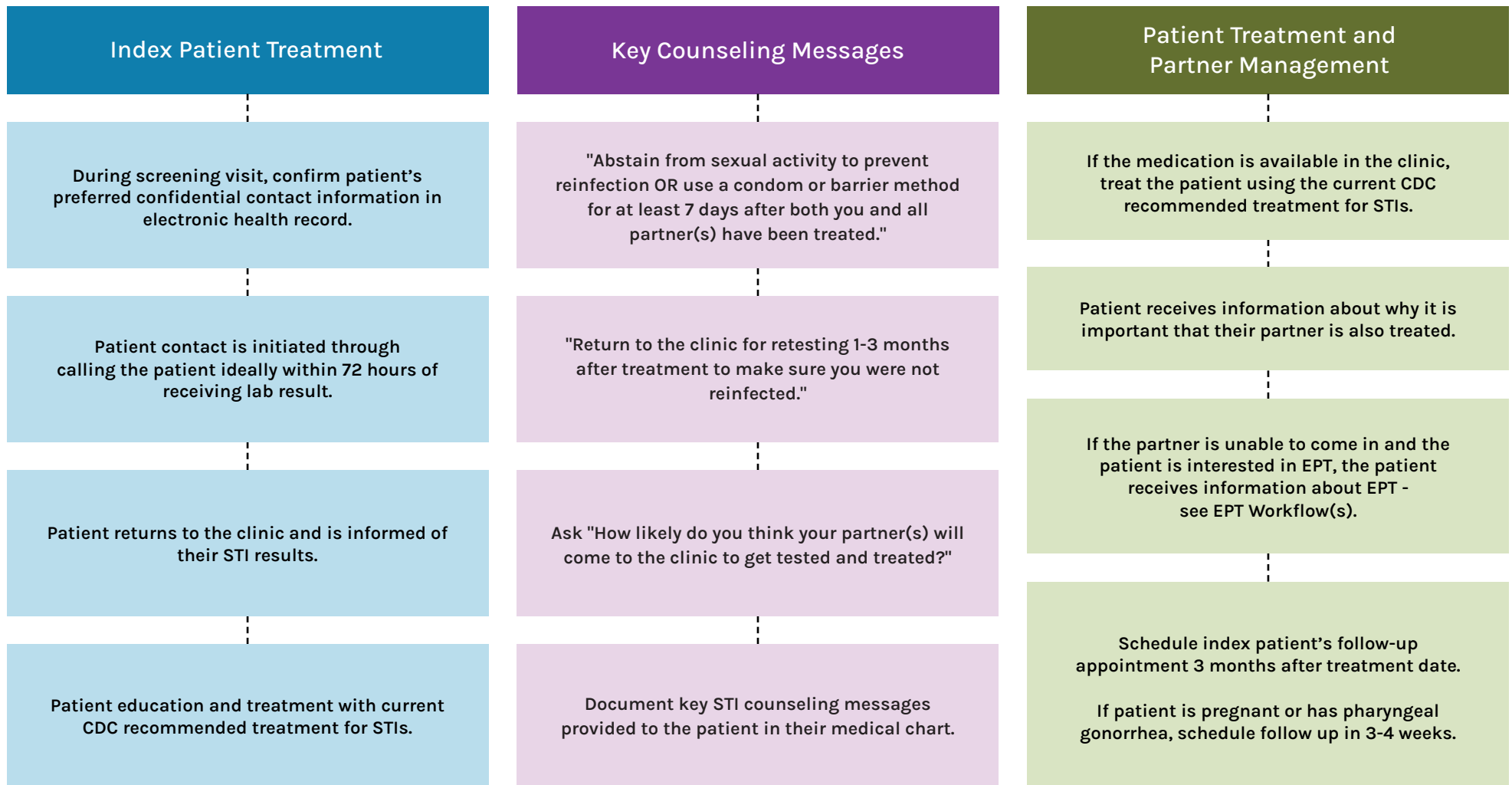


Expedited Partner Therapy Sample Workflows

Patient Diagnosed with an STI (Index Patient)

Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) is the clinical practice of treating sex partners of patients diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection (STI) without the healthcare provider first examining the partner. EPT is effective, safe, and acceptable to patients and their partners, and has been allowable in California since 2001 (California Health & Safety Code § 120582).¹ EPT is commonly offered for chlamydia, gonorrhea, and trichomoniasis. The following workflows are recommendations for clinical staff to use as a resource when offering EPT.

Sample Workflow - Patient Diagnosed with an STI (Index Patient)



Sample Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) Workflow

Clinic Dispensing EPT after Index Patient Treatment workflow is completed

EPT Counseling

If there are any concerns about the patient's safety (IPV/DV) or any other risk, then EPT is not right for the patient. Consider sample language such as:
"How do you think your partner(s) will react when you tell them about test results and treatment?"

Ask the patient if they know whether their partner(s) is/are allergic to EPT medications. If YES, EPT may not be an appropriate option for them.

Ask the patient if their partner(s) may be pregnant. If so, every effort should be made for the pregnant partner to receive appropriate care. EPT should be used as last resort. Emphasize that a test-of-cure for chlamydia/gonorrhea should be performed.

See EPT Counseling Guide under resources list for additional counseling questions.

Initiate EPT dispensing if the patient has agreed to continue.

EPT Dispensing

Initiate Dispensing – upload and dispense EPT counseling and health education materials for patient and infected partner(s). Educational resources in various languages are available at: orders.essentialaccess.org/resources

Clinical or health education staff reviews EPT materials with patient and documents messages in the EHR. EPT counseling and health education given.

Clinical staff obtains medication and labels patient's name for each partner dose. If more than one dose is given to the patient, EPT health education materials must be included in each bag/envelope that contains the STI medication.

Scheduling and Documentation

Schedule 3-month retest appointment reminder for the index patient.

If patient is pregnant or has pharyngeal gonorrhea, schedule follow up in 3-4 weeks.

Clinical staff documents visit and number of doses distributed in patient's EHR.

Patient discharged with EPT health education and EPT medications in hand. You may want to consider adding clinic information on health education materials when available.

Sample Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) Workflow

Prescribing EPT after Index Patient Treatment workflow is completed:
Medical, Family PACT and other EPT Rx

EPT Counseling

If there are any concerns about the patient's safety (such as intimate partner or domestic violence) or any other risk, then EPT is not right for the patient. Consider sample language such as:
"How do you think your partner(s) will react when you tell them about test results and treatment?"

Ask the patient if they know whether their partner(s) is/are allergic to EPT medications. If YES, EPT may not be an appropriate option for them.

Ask the patient if their partner(s) may be pregnant. If so, every effort should be made for the pregnant partner to receive appropriate care. EPT should be used as last resort. Emphasize that a test-of-cure for chlamydia/gonorrhea should be performed.

See EPT Counseling Guide under resources list for additional counseling questions.

Initiate EPT prescription if the patient has agreed to continue.

EPT Prescription

Initiate Prescription – upload and dispense EPT counseling and health education materials for patient and infected partner(s). Educational resources in various languages are available at:
orders.essentialaccess.org/resources

Clinical or health education staff reviews EPT materials with patient and documents messages in the EHR. EPT counseling and health education given.

Electronic Prescription (eRx) for MediCal and Family PACT Patients - Provide eRx STI medication for the total number of doses to be dispensed by the pharmacy under the index patient's name.

Sample for chlamydia positive with three partners, using the current 2021 STD Treatment guidelines:
Doxycycline 100 mg cap. Sig: Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) Patient and each partner to take 1 caps by mouth BID today. Dispense #56 Caps. Number of Refills: 0. See Sample eRx attached

Other EPT written prescriptions (commercial plans, cash pay, etc.) may be written for the medications to treat an individual partner but may not contain the partner's name or their date of birth. California law requires health care providers to write the words "**Expedited Partner Therapy**" or "**EPT**" on the prescription.

If more than one prescription is given to the index patient for their partner(s), separate EPT health education materials must be given for each of the patient's partner(s). Educational resources in a variety of languages are available at:
orders.essentialaccess.org/resources

Scheduling and Documentation

Schedule 3-month retest appointment reminder for the index patient. If patient is pregnant or has pharyngeal gonorrhea, schedule follow up in 3-4 weeks.

Clinical staff documents visit and number of doses prescribed in patient's EHR.

Patient discharged with EPT health education and EPT prescriptions in hand. You may want to consider adding clinic information on health education materials when available.

Sample EPT eRx for Medical and Family PACT Patients

Below is a sample prescription for index patient treatment for chlamydia and EPT three partners. California law requires health care providers to write the words **“Expedited Partner Therapy”** or **“EPT”** on the prescription **if** they do not have the patient’s sexual partner(s) names. Prescriptions must be written in the name of the enrolled beneficiary/client [index patient] to be covered by Medi-Cal and/or Family PACT (Planning, Access, Care, and Treatment), even if the sexual partner(s) are also covered by Medi-Cal or Family PACT.⁴ Reimbursement is for client dose and up to five partner doses per dispensing.

doxycycline hyclate 100 mg capsule

Estimated Patient Cost:

Show Alternatives/Pricing Coverage

Pharmacy

Local Pharmacy 101



Edit Sig: take 1 capsule by oral route 2 times every day

Remove Sig

☐ PRN

Reason:

Quantity:

56

Units:

Capsule

Refills:

0



Dispense As Written

Accept

Cancel

Start: 06/01/2025

Stop: 06/01/2025

Duration:



Prescribed Elsewhere Source:

Non-Clinical
Notes to
Pharmacy:

Please dispense in 4 labeled bottles of #14 for index patient and three partners for expedited partner therapy.

Problem:

Chlamydia infection, unspecified.

Provider:

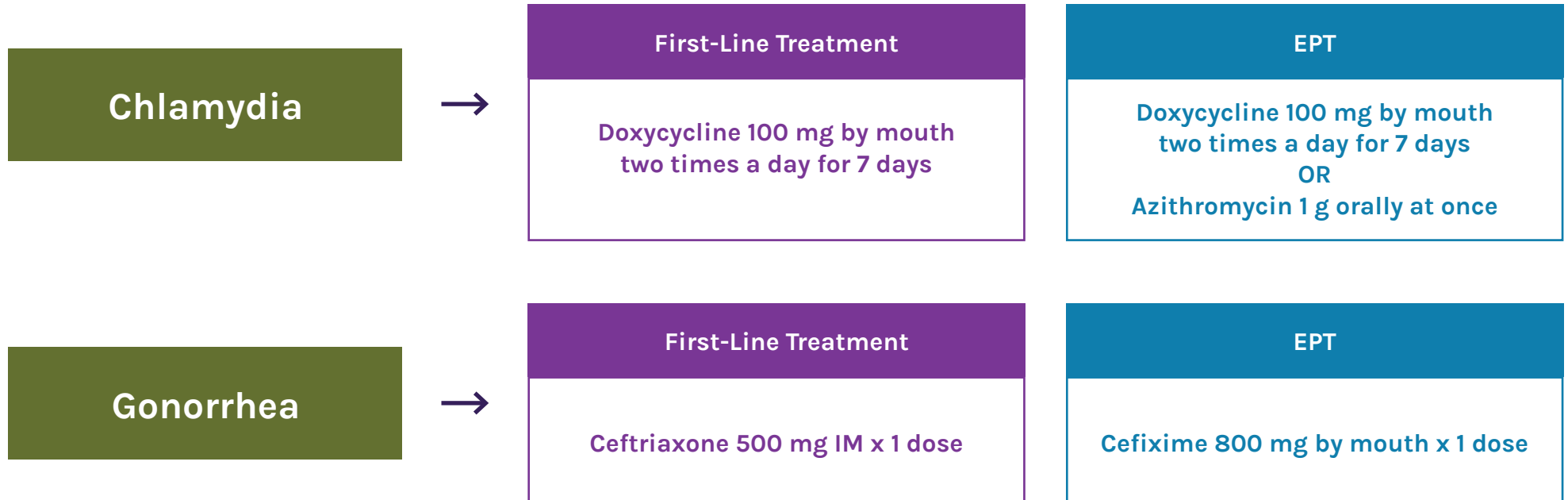
Dr. Health

Location:

Local Clinic

Treatment: First-Line vs. EPT

EPT treatment varies slightly from first line treatment for chlamydia and gonorrhea.



References

1 Legal Status of Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT)
<https://www.cdc.gov/sti/php/ept-legal-status/california.html>
Status as of January 1, 2022. Accessed May 7, 2025.

2 Sexually Transmitted Infections Treatment Guidelines, 2021, Centers for Disease Control
<https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/STI-Guidelines-2021.pdf>

3 How to Prescribe Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) for Sexually Transmitted Infections
Accessed May 7, 2025.

Resources

Expedited Partner Therapy: A Counseling Guide for Providers.
https://www.essentialaccess.org/sites/default/files/PDPT_Counseling_Guide_Web.pdf
Accessed May 7, 2025.

Expedited Partner Therapy FAQs for California Pharmacists.
<https://www.essentialaccess.org/sites/default/files/EPT-FAQ-California-Pharmacists.pdf>
Accessed May 7, 2025.

Expedited Partner Therapy Resources <https://orders.essentialaccess.org/resources>
Accessed May 7, 2025.