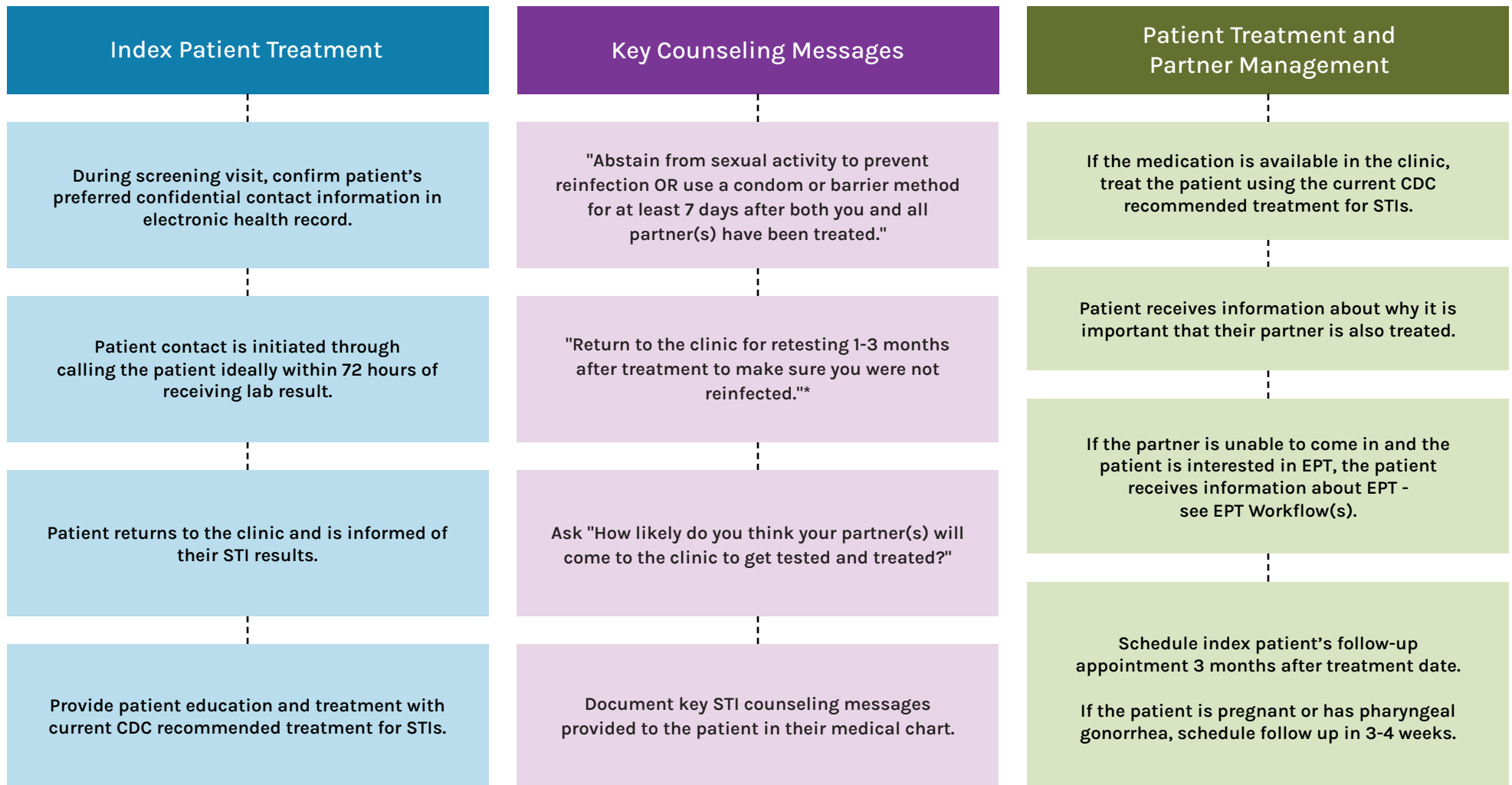


Expedited Partner Therapy Sample Workflows

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.

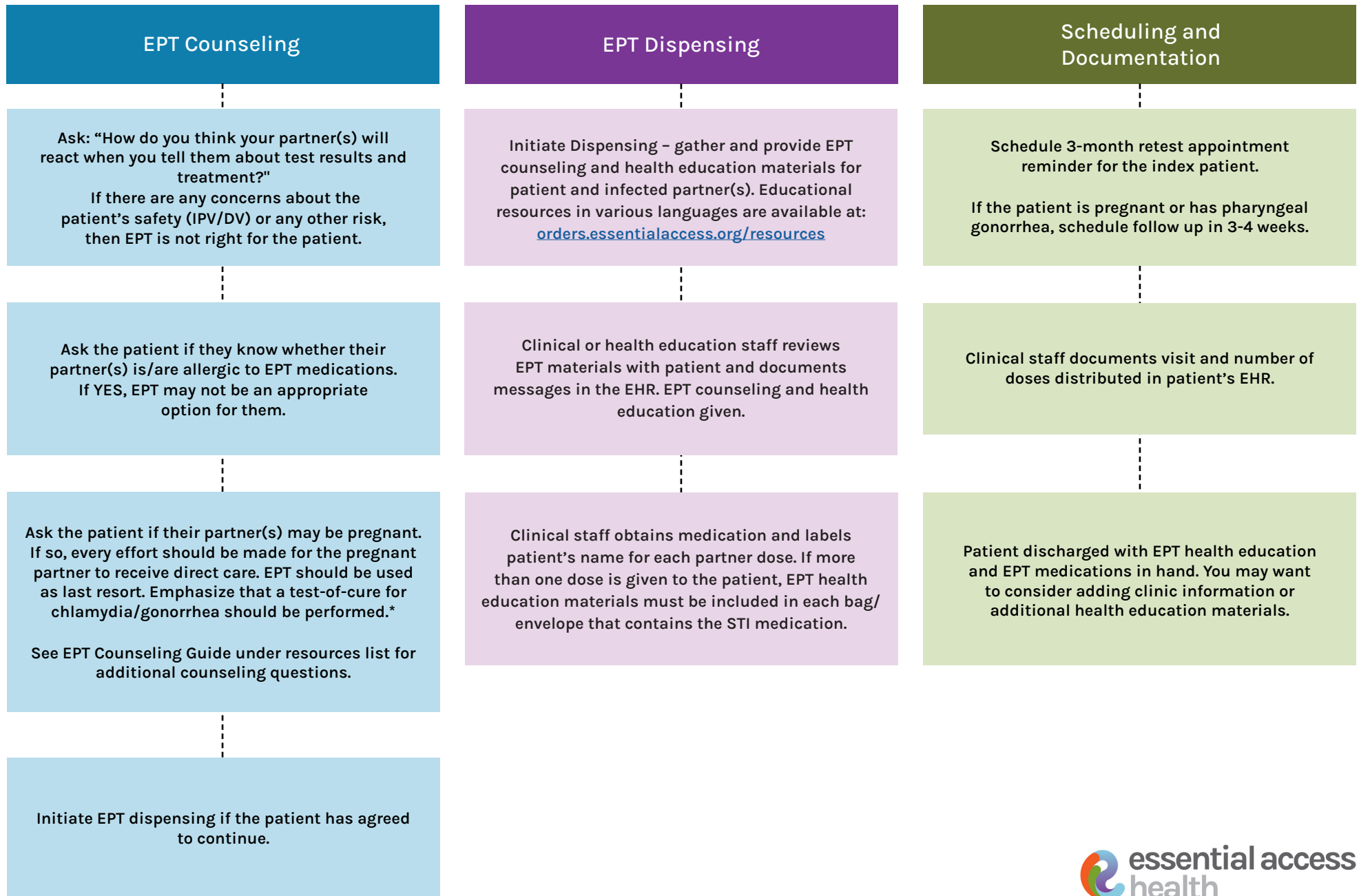
Sample Workflow - Patient Diagnosed with an STI (Index Patient)



* see page 6 for window periods regarding retesting and test of cure

Sample Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) Workflow

Clinic Dispensing EPT after Index Patient Treatment workflow is completed



Sample Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) Workflow

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

EPT Counseling

Ask: "How do you think your partner(s) will react when you tell them about test results and treatment?"

If there are any concerns about the patient's safety (IPV/DV) or any other risk, then EPT is not right for the patient.

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 direct 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 –gather and provide 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 2 times/day for 7 days. Dispense #56 Caps. Number of Refills: 0.
See Sample eRx attached

Other EPT written prescriptions (commercial plans, cash pay, etc.) may be written in the name of the index patient or the individual partner, but California law requires the health care provider to write "**Expedited Partner Therapy**" or "**EPT**" on a prescription if they do not have patient's sexual partner(s) name(s).

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 the 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 or additional health education materials.

* see page 6 for window periods regarding retesting and test of cure

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 mouth 2 times/day for 7 days

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, gonorrhea, and trichomoniasis.

Chlamydia



First-Line Treatment

Doxycycline 100 mg by mouth
two times a day for 7 days

EPT

Doxycycline 100 mg by mouth
two times a day for 7 days
OR
Azithromycin 1 g orally at once

Gonorrhea



First-Line Treatment

If <150kg: ceftriaxone 500mg IM x 1
dose
If ≥150 kg: ceftriaxone 1gram IM x 1
dose

EPT

Cefixime 800 mg by mouth x 1 dose

Trichomoniasis



First-Line Treatment

For cervicovaginal infection:
Metronidazole 500 mg 2 times/day
for 7 days

For penile infection:
Metronidazole 2 g orally in a single
dose

EPT

Partners at risk for cervicovaginal
infection:
Metronidazole 500 mg 2 times/day
for 7 days

Partners at risk for penile infection:
Metronidazole 2 g orally in a single
dose

Window Periods: Retesting and Test of Cure (TOC)

Chlamydia

Retest patients 3 months after treatment. If this is not possible, retest whenever patients seek medical care <12 months after initial treatment.

Complete a TOC for pregnant patients OR when adherence is in question, symptoms persist, or re-infection is suspected approximately 4 weeks after treatment is completed and retest 3 months after treatment.

Gonorrhea

Retest patients 3 months after treatment. If this is not possible, clinicians should retest whenever patients seek medical care <12 months after initial treatment.

Complete a TOC for patients with pharyngeal gonorrhea 7-14 days after treatment using culture or NAAT. If NAAT is positive, a confirmatory culture should be done before re-treatment. If culture is positive, antimicrobial susceptibility testing is recommended.

If symptoms persist after treatment, cultures (with or without NAAT) and antimicrobial susceptibility samples should be collected.

Trichomoniasis

Retest patients with a uterus 3 months after treatment. If this is not possible, retest whenever patients seek medical care <12 months after initial treatment.

Data are insufficient to support retesting people with a penis after treatment.

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>

Chlamydia: <https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/chlamydia.htm>

Gonorrhea: <https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/gonorrhea-adults.htm>

Trichomonas: <https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/trichomoniasis.htm>

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.