

Michigan Local Health Department (LHD) **Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Program**

PROGRAM PURPOSE

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), including gonorrhea, syphilis, chlamydia, and hepatitis B result in excessive morbidity, mortality, and health care costs, particularly among women, adolescents, and newborns. The goals of the LHD STD Program are: 1) prompt reporting of Sexually Transmitted Disease cases, 2) the provision of screening and treatment services for Michigan's citizens, and 3) the application of interviewing, education, and case finding activities to reduce complications and intervene in the spread of disease.

1 in 4

Michigan residents will get
an STD in their lifetime

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Surveillance



In accordance with the Public Health Code, LHDs work with laboratories and clinicians to report STDs. Action is taken to ensure appropriate care and provide rapid follow-up for priority cases. These reports are then forwarded to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services via the Michigan Disease Surveillance System. Based on these reports, resources are targeted to the areas of greatest need.

\$ 1/ 2 Billion

amount new STD cases
cost the Michigan Healthcare
system each year

Screening



Routine testing for syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia are offered to many high-risk patients seen by LHDs, private medical facilities, or other venues. The early treatment afforded to infected patients and their sex partners avoids the **higher costs** associated with the management of complications and prevents the spread of infection. The LHD STD Program supports syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia screening services with local, state or federal funds.

Treatment



All LHDs provide STD services to persons presenting for care, either within the health department or by referral to a private provider. Much of the approximately \$7 million per year, that the MDHHS STD Program awards LHDs, is used to enhance clinical services. Training courses for clinicians are periodically offered and by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Clinical Training Center in Cincinnati, to update skills. Accreditation review and minimum program requirements assure that LHD clinics operate according to generally accepted standards.

600 thousand

new cases of STDs
occur each year in Michigan

Interviewing and Case finding



LHD Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS), MDHHS staff, and other administrative personnel provide case management activities. Persons found infected with priority STDs and HIV are provided pertinent medical information regarding their infection, interviewed regarding sex partners, and assisted with referral of their partners for appropriate examination and treatment; the end result being reduced transmission of infection.

Prevention and Education



The STD Program's prevention efforts are conducted by local public health departments, hospitals, and other health care providers. For example, condoms, statistical summaries, program and treatment guidelines, and other requested technical assistance are regularly provided by the LHD STD Programs. A number of training courses and satellite conferences, as well as the yearly MDHHS STD/HIV Conference, are held each year for local public health staff, community-based organizations, and other public/private agencies. LHDs coordinate with local school

districts to provide health education and prevention.

PROGRAM GOALS

- Reductions in syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia, focusing on health disparities.
- Continue to implement a comprehensive approach to partner management for STD and HIV.
- Increased hepatitis A/B and HPV immunization in STD clinics.
- Increased screening for chlamydia, targeting adolescent females in high-risk settings.
- Enhancement of private/public partnerships to control STDs, including the use of provider and partner packets for those diagnosed with gonorrhea and chlamydia.
- Increased surveillance activity for priority infections.
- Increased education and training.

Resources

Help support Michigan Local Health Departments in the fight against STDs

State and local funding support DIS and other program staff, and provides resources for drugs and prevention efforts. Any additional funding helps increase community outreach for testing and treating STDs, including more staff, increased educational resources, and increased surveillance.

WHO TO CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

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- Local Health Departments: locations available at www.malph.org
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/std
- Michigan Statistics: www.michigan.gov/hivstd
- MDHHS STD Section, Patsy Villegas, Section Manager, (517) 241-0870