

Dear Colleague,

This message serves to provide an update on the contents of the 2015 STD Treatment Guidelines recently released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These recommendations are a source of clinical guidance for health care providers for all STDs. As a reminder, all Georgia physicians, laboratories and other health care providers are required by law to [report the following STDs to the GA Department of Public Health](#): chancroid, *Chlamydia trachomatis*, gonorrhea, HIV/AIDS, lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV) and syphilis. Reports can be made by phone, mail or fax to your district health department or by our electronic database (sendss.ga.gov).

The CDC highlights these key updates when they introduced the new guidelines:

1. Alternative treatment regimens for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*;
2. The use of nucleic acid amplification tests for the diagnosis of trichomoniasis;
3. Alternative treatment options for genital warts;
4. The role of *Mycoplasma genitalium* in urethritis/cervicitis and treatment-related implications;
5. Updated HPV vaccine recommendations and counseling messages;
6. The management of persons who are transgender;
7. Annual testing for hepatitis C in persons with HIV infection;
8. Updated recommendations for diagnostic evaluation of urethritis; and
9. Retesting to detect repeat infection.

Please visit the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/default.htm>. Here you will find the guidelines in full, as well as a printable pocket guide and wall chart that provide current dosing recommendations for all STDs. Additionally, the CDC has launched a new [app](#) that serves as a quick reference guide to the identification and treatment of STDs (currently available to Apple users, with an Android compatible version set to be released later this summer). These resources are valuable tools to help ensure we are all consistently following the most effective and up to date recommendations for our patients.

Finally, as a reminder, when entering case submissions in SendSS, please complete all required fields; this is important for data analysis and our ability to relay population statistics in a timely matter. The required fields include **patient name, address, race/ethnicity, DOB, pregnancy status, provider and lab information, and treatment**. Incomplete cases must be followed up individually, which takes both time and resources of the providers and the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH).

Thank you for your ongoing support of the DPH STD Program. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local district health office (770-514-2452), or call the Georgia Department of Public Health at 1-866-PUB-HLTH (1-866-782-4584).