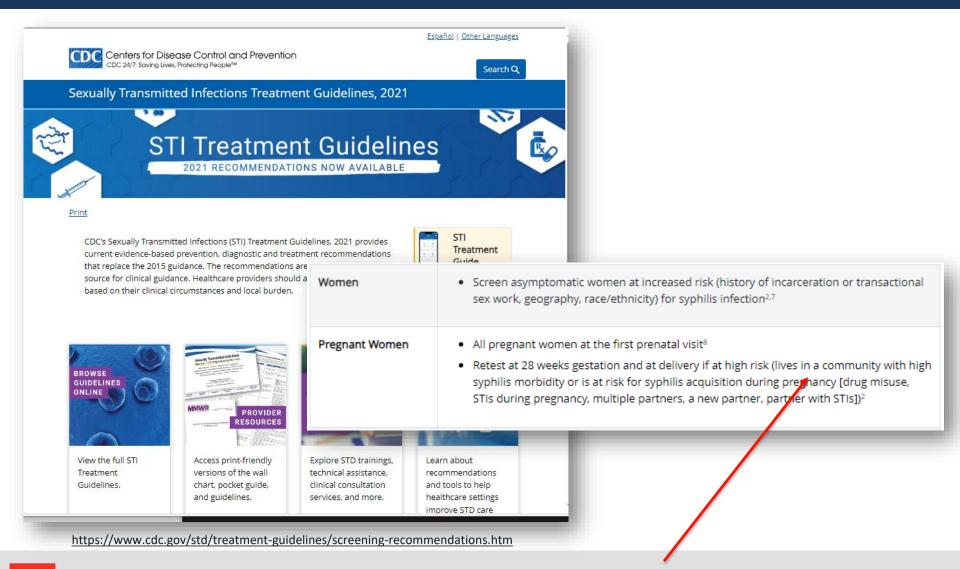
## Tennessee State Law

(a) Every physician, surgeon, or other person permitted by law to attend a pregnant woman during gestation shall, in the case of each woman so attended, take or cause to be taken a sample of the blood of the woman at the time of first examination and visit or within ten (10) days after the first examination. If the first visit is at the time of delivery, or after delivery, the standard serological test required by this subsection (a) shall be performed at that time. The blood sample shall be sent to a laboratory approved by the department for testing for syphilis infection, rubella immunity, and hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg). In the same manner, a sample of blood shall be taken during or after the twenty-eighth week of gestation for a woman whom the attending physician determines to be at high risk of hepatitis B or syphilis according to the current standards of care. This second sample shall be sent to a laboratory approved by the department for testing for syphilis infection and HBsAg only. Additional testing for rubella immunity is not required in subsequent pregnancies once a positive result is verified or a documented history of vaccination against rubella is available. However, all pregnant women shall be tested for syphilis and hepatitis B during an early prenatal visit in each pregnancy. A positive test for syphilis and hepatitis B shall be reported to the local health department in accordance with this chapter, and regulations governing the control of communicable diseases in Tennessee.

Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-5-602



# **CDC Screening Recommendations**





# **Healthy People 2030**

# Reduce the syphilis rate in females — STI-03

Status: Getting worse

Learn more about our data release schedule



Most Recent Data:

**10.8** cases of primary and secondary syphilis per 100,000 females (2020)



Target:

**4.6** per 100,000



Desired Direction:

Decrease desired



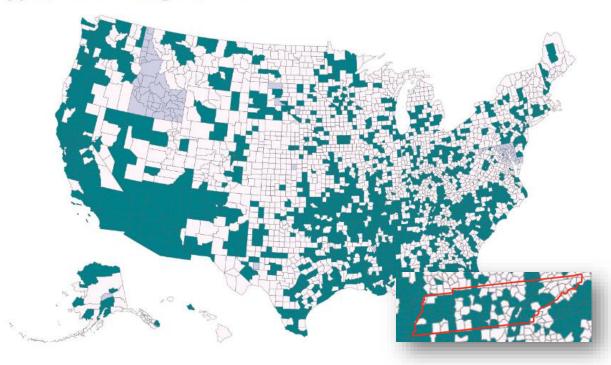
Dooding

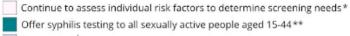
**5.1** cases of primary and secondary syphilis per 100,000 females aged 15 to 44 years were reported in 2017



https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/sexually-transmitted-infections/reduce-syphilis-rate-females-sti-03

County-level syphilis rates among women can help direct syphilis screening efforts.





Suppressed<sup>†</sup>

https://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/atlas/syphilis/index.html



**73**%

# **Healthy People 2030**

# Reduce the syphilis rate in females — STI-03

Status: Getting worse Most Recent Data: 10.8 cases of primary and secondary syphilis per 100,000 females (2020) 4.6 per 100 000 Continue to assess individual risk factors to determine screening needs\* Desired D Decreas Offer syphilis testing to all sexually active people aged 15-44\*\* **5.1** cases Suppressed<sup>T</sup> females a https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browseobjectives/sexually-transmitted-infections/reduce-syphilis-rate-Continue to assess individual risk factors to determine screening needs\* females-sti-03 **73%** Offer syphilis testing to all sexually active people aged 15-44\*\* Suppressed†

syphilis screening efforts.

County-level syphilis rates among women can help direct

https://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/atlas/svphilis/index.html



## **TDH Recommendations - THAN**



#### Dear Colleague

Thank you for your continued support of public health in Tennessee. Due to the continued rise in syphilis and congenital syphilis (CS) cases, the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) strongly encourages additional recommendations for screening and treatment.

Untreated syphilis in pregnancy results in severe adverse pregnancy outcomes. Syphilis is a major cause of stillbirth and increases risk of preterm birth. Up to 40% of babies born to mothers with untreated syphilis are stillborn or die in infancy, Infected infants can be asymptomatic ab birth but develop serious symptoms as neonates or later in life. Adequate detection and treatment of syphilis during pregnancy is critical. A pregnant woman can transmit syphilis to her child during any stage of syphilis and any trimester of preenancy.

- From 2017 to 2021, TN had a 227% increase in CS cases, compared to a 185% increase nationally.
   Increases continued in 2022 with 219 pregnant patients with syphilis (all stages) and 61 CS cases. In
- 2022, there were 3,870 cases of syphilis (all stages) in TN.

  Of the CS cases in 2022, 15% of the moms who screened negative for syphilis in the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Of the CS cases in 2022, 15% of the moms who screened negative for syphilis in the 1" or 2" trimester were not rescreened at 28-32 weeks, but had a subsequent baby with CS.
- 76% of pregnancies resulting in CS had some prenatal care, but 24% had no prenatal care.
   The burden of CS cases is greater among certain racial and ethnic populations. Removing barriers to care can help ensure that health access is equitable for all.

#### Pregnancy/Stillbirth Recommendations:

- Currently, state law requires all pregnancies be tested for syphilis in the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester or at the 1<sup>st</sup> prenatal care visit.
- <u>Rescreening</u> for syphilis at 28-32 weeks gestation and at delivery is <u>highly encouraged</u> by TDH for ALL patients, regardless of first trimester test results.
- If a patient is getting a pregnancy test in an emergency department or outpatient/walk-in-setting.
   TDH highly encourages concurrent sexually transmitted infection testing including syphilis. Cases of CS can be prevented if syphilis has been detected and treated at the time the time pregnancy was
- If a patient has a vaginal complaint in pregnancy which requires a workup, strongly consider testing for syphilis in addition to your other testing.
- If a patient faces obstacles to care, TDH recommends starting syphilis treatment right away following a positive rapid syphilis test during pregnancy. Send for full confirmatory syphilis testing for optimal patient follow-up. Bicillin<sup>®</sup> (long-acting penicillin G) is the only recommended treatment for syphilis during pregnancy. Due to the ongoing Bicillin<sup>®</sup> shortages, prioritize Bicillin<sup>®</sup> for pregnant patients.
- All women who experience stillbirth after 20 weeks should be tested for syphilis.

#### Pediatric Recommendations:

- Infants should not leave the hospital without the serologic status of the infants' mother having bee documented at least once during pregnancy.
- CS should be considered in infants of mothers with evidence of syphilis infection during pregnancy, especially if syphilis is newly acquired during pregnancy.

#### Treatment

- Report suspected/probable CS cases to <u>local health departments</u> or fax the <u>PH-1600 Form</u> to (615)
- Need to know your patient's syphilis history to accurately treat? Positive syphilis serology and treatment history can be confirmed by contacting your local health department or by submitting a syphilis history request to https://redcap.link/syphilis.
- Refer to the CDC treatment guidelines for management of syphilis in pregnancy and congenital syphilis. <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/default.htm">https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/default.htm</a>

For more information contact, please contact Syphilis.history@tn.gov or call 615-741-7500

Andrew Johnson Tower • 710 James Robertson Parkway• Nashville, TN 37243 • http://tn.gov/health

**Rescreening** for syphilis at 28-32 weeks gestation and at delivery is **highly encouraged** by TDH for ALL patients, regardless of first trimester test results

If a patient is getting a pregnancy test in an emergency department or outpatient/walk-in setting, TDH highly encourages concurrent sexually transmitted infection testing including syphilis

All women experiencing stillbirth after 20 weeks should be tested for syphilis



## ACOG Recommendations

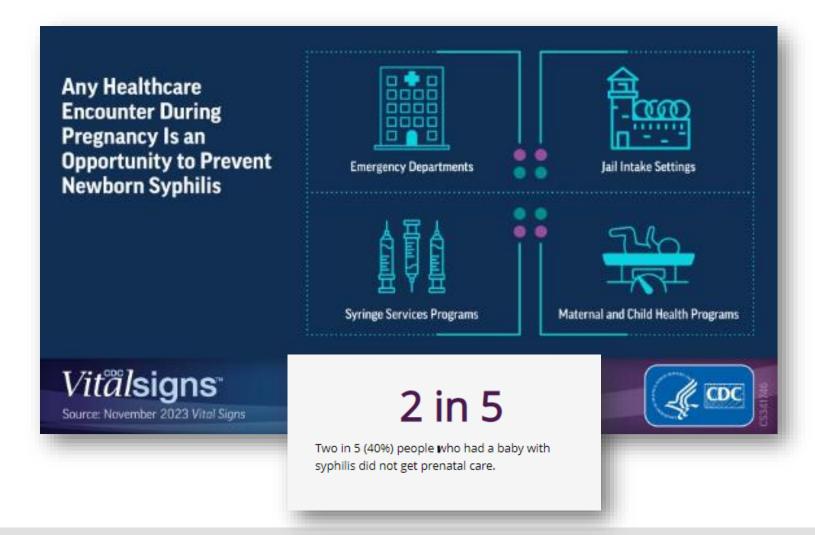
# Updated ACOG Recommendation

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) continues to endorse the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Sexually Transmitted Infection Treatment Guidelines, 2021 1. However, in the context of the rapidly increasing rates of congenital syphilis, obstetrician—gynecologists and other obstetric care professionals should screen all pregnant individuals serologically for syphilis at the first prenatal care visit, followed by universal rescreening during the third trimester and at birth, rather than use a risk-based approach to testing.

https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/practice-advisory/articles/2024/04/screening-for-syphilis-in-pregnancy

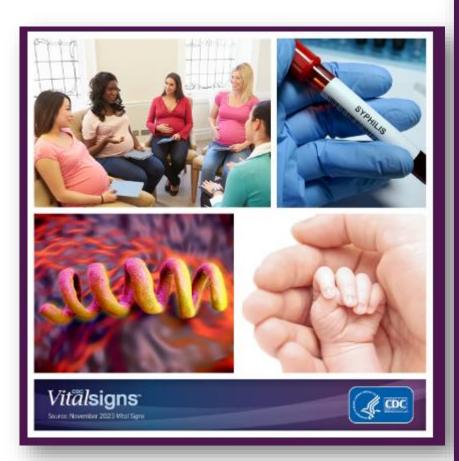


# **CDC Vital Signs**





# **Vital Stats Highlights**



https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/newborn-syphilis/index.html

- Make any healthcare encounter during pregnancy an opportunity to treat and prevent newborn syphilis.
  - Meet people where they are during pregnancy with syphilis testing and treatment, including outside of usual prenatal care settings.
  - Emergency departments, jails, syringe services programs, and maternal and child health programs play a role in identifying and treating syphilis among people who do not receive adequate prenatal care.
- Ensure all people get the treatment they need.
  - Rapid syphilis tests (points of care tests) offer opportunities to test and treat at the same time.
    - This is especially needed for people who might not see a healthcare provider regularly during pregnancy and who may face barriers to coming back for treatment.
  - Local <u>disease intervention specialists</u>, who are public health professionals trained to prevent and contain infectious diseases, also play a vital role in reaching out in communities and ensuring people are diagnosed and treated.



# **Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS)**

Public health professionals who use contract tracing and case investigation to prevent and control infectious diseases

#### DIS specialize in:

- Public health investigations
- Case management and analysis
- Provider and community engagement, and
- Outbreak detection and response.

DIS offer partner services to people with STDs, their partners, and others at increased risk for infection.



Notify your patients of potential DIS follow-up.





# **Disease Reporting**

# **2024** Reportable Disease List

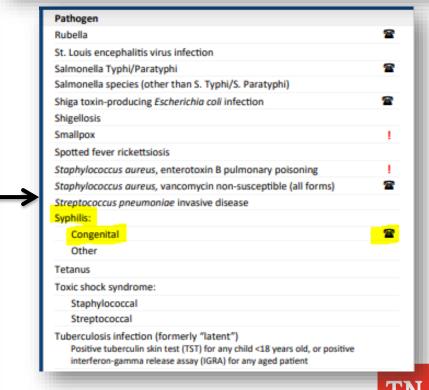


#### Regular Reporting

PH-1600 form within 1 week (all diseases)

Phone immediately and PH-1600 form within 1 week

Phone next business day and PH-1600 form within 1 week



# **Duty to Report**

#### **How to Report: For Healthcare Providers**

#### Responsibility to Report

All healthcare providers (inpatient or outpatient), laboratories, or other persons knowing of or suspecting a reportable disease case, are responsible for reporting to the health department. Laboratories in healthcare facilities should refer to the reporting information for laboratories. Healthcare providers and laboratories in the same healthcare facility both have a duty to report. For questions, contact CEDEP at (615) 741-7247 or (800) 404-3006.

https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/reportable-diseases/HealthcareProviders How-to-Report.PDF



# **Local Health Department**

- Report syphilis cases to local health department STI program designee
- Regional health department STI program staff provide support and resources

#### Local and Regional Health Departments



Local and Regional Health Departments (tn.gov)



# Local Health Department Contacts - STI

#### **STI Contacts for Regional Health Departments**

West	Mid-Cumberland	South Central	Upper Cumberland	Southeast	East	Northeast
Felicia Stegall	Lakesha Marshall	Karan Kilpatrick	Robin Palmer	Beth Thomas	Erika Hampton	Samantha Webb
STI Manager	STI Manager	STI Manager	HIV/STI Manager	STI Manager	STI Manager	STI Manager
P: 731-421-6745	P: 615-650-7041	P: 931-490-8362	P: 931-646-7550	P: 423-634-5804	P: 865-601-7688	P: 423-979-4653
F: 731-421-5000	P: 615-650-7025	931-490-8362	F: 931-520-7575	F: 423-634-3139	P: 865-549-5290	C: 423-202-5879



#### **STI Contacts for Metro Health Departments**

Shelby	Madison	Davidson	Hamilton	Knox	Sullivan
Misty Hayes-Winton	Quill Brabham	Norman Foster	Arlisia Craig	Chad Burry	Heather Mullins
Program Manager	HIV/STI Manager	STI/HIV Manager	STI Manager	Patient Services Manager	Regional EPI/STD Director
P: 901-222-9416	P: 731-927-8534	P: 615-340-5695	P: 423-209-8264	P: 865-215-5267	P: 423-279-7545
P: 901-222-9427	C: 731-431-3561	F: 615-340-8560	F: 423-209-8259	C: 865-363-7105	F: 423-279-2727

## **Local Health Department – Next Business Day Reporting**

#### **Congenital Syphilis Reporting:**

- What info is needed?
  - Mother & Infant:
    - DOB
    - Signs & Symptoms
    - Lab results (or pending results like VDRL)
    - Treatment
    - Prenatal Provider
  - Contact info for mother
    - If patient is still in hospital
      - Patients are very hard to locate once d/c'd from hospital



# Local Health Department - PH-1600 Reporting



This form may be completed online at <a href="https://hssi.tn.gov/auth/login">https://hssi.tn.gov/auth/login</a> or faxed to the Division of Communicable and Environmental Diseases and Emergency Preparedness (CEDEP) at Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) at (615) 741-3857. To fax directly to the local or regional health office, refer to <a href="https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/localdepartments.html">https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/localdepartments.html</a>. For questions, contact CEDEP at (615) 741-7247 or (800) 404-3006. For more specific details, refer to the TDH Reportable Diseases website at <a href="https://apps.health.tn.gov/ReportableDiseases">https://apps.health.tn.gov/ReportableDiseases</a>.

Disease/Event:

Please note: Birth Defects, Drug Overdose, Lead Levels, NAS, & NHSN Healthcare-Associated Infections should not be reported using this form.

#### **Directions for Providers:**

- All of the information on this form is required to report, if available. <u>Public Health will follow</u> up with the reporter for the patient demographics and lab report, if missing.
- 2 The provider information, patient demographics, and clinical information may be provided on this form, or attached (e.g., patient cover sheet, notifiable diseases report, relevant medical records).
- Provide the contact information for the provider for Public Health follow-up. If the primary place of work for the provider is a private practice, provide the name, phone, and fax for that facility rather than the hosoital.
- Attach the associated laboratory report to this form.
- Provide the county of the provider facility or practice to aid in assignment of the case to a public health jurisdiction.
- If patient's "Date of Birth" is unavailable, report the patient's age in years. If the patient is < 1 year of age, please mark the box for "Months." If the patient is < 1 month of age, please list "0" and mark the box for "Months."</p>
- Patient address is used to assign public health jurisdiction for the investigation.
- Hepatitis symptoms include: fever, malaise, vomiting, fatigue, anorexia, diarrhea, abdominal pain, jaundice, headache, nausea.
- ☑ TReportable tickborne diseases such as Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis, Spotted Fever Rickettsiosis, and Lyme Disease.
- ☑ For a positive interferon-gamma release assay (IGRA) for (<u>latent</u>) <u>Tuberculosis Infection (TBI</u>) attach a copy of the lab result to this form. For a positive tuberculin skin test (TST) for any child or adolescent < 18 years of age, document the TST result in millimeters (mm) of induration in the "Comments" field at right; fax this form directly to the Tennessee Tuberculosis Elimination Program: (615) 253-1370.
  </p>

#### **Directions for Laboratories:**

- Laboratories should report to Public Health via electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) or a printed laboratory report, rather than by completing this form, unless provider information or patient demographics are missing in the lab report. Then, complete this form only for the missing information and attach the lab report.
- ☑ Laboratories are <u>only</u> required to report Specimen Collection Date and Specimen Source in the Clinical Information section.
- The information required (if available) for printed lab reports includes:
  - (1) Patient demographics (shown on the right, including address)
  - (2) Ordering provider and facility name, phone number, address
    (3) Performing laboratory name, phone number, and address
  - (4) Reporting facility name, phone number, address

Reporter Name: Phone: ( ) Lab Report: ☐ Attached □ Not Tested ☐ Report Unavailable Provider Name: Primary Facility/Practice: Phone: ( Fax: ( County: Patient Name: Date of Birth: (mm/dd/yyyy) ☐ American Indian/ Alaska Native \*Age: ■ Months □ Asian ☐ Black/ African American Sex: Ethnicity: ☐ Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander ■ Male ☐ Hispanic □ Female ■ Not Hispanic □ Unknown □ Unknown □ Unknown Street Address: City: State: Zip Code: County: Phone: ( Phone: ( Illness Onset Date: Hospitalized? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown **Hospital Name: Admission Date:** Discharge Date: Pregnant? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown Died? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown Symptoms?<sup>H</sup> hepatitis cases only □ Unknown Yes □ No □ Unknown Fever? Tickborne diseases only Specimen Collection Date: Specimen Source:

Date of Report:

# Congenital Syphilis Infections Medical Records Needs:

- -Face Sheet
- -H&P
- -MAR with syphilis treatment
- -Consults related to syphilis
- -Discharge Summary

Reportable Diseases and Events are declared to be communicable and/or dangerous to the public and are to be reported to the local health department by all hospitals, physicians, laboratories, and other persons knowing of or suspecting a case in accordance with the provision of the statutes and regulations governing the control of communicable diseases in Tennessee (T.C.A. §68 Rule 1200-14-01-.02).

PH-1600 (REV.9/2019) RDA-2094

- (5) Date of the laboratory report
- (6) Test performed (may differ from the test ordered)
- (7) Accession number
- (8) Specimen type/source and collection date
- (9) Result (quantitative and qualitative), interpretation, and reference range
- See the Reportable Diseases website for the ELR requirements.

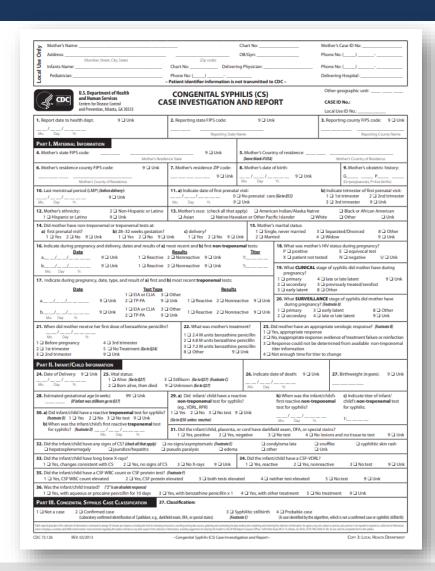
STD Treatment: Date:// Medications:	Comments:
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## **CDC** Reporting Requirements

#### **Congenital syphilis reporting:**

- Obstetric history
- Prenatal care details
- Test results
- Treatment
  - Treatment used
  - Date given
  - Duration of treatment
  - Adequate for stage?
  - Adequate response?
- Clinical presentation
- Risk factors





# **TN Congenital Syphilis Review Board**

In-depth exploration of the contributors to congenital syphilis infections and the system issues that impact the risk of infection.

Multidisciplinary Case Review Team

Developing a clearer understanding of underlying risk factors and inequities that may not be identified otherwise.

Uses findings to take action that can prevent future cases of congenital syphilis and improve the system of care and resources for women and infants

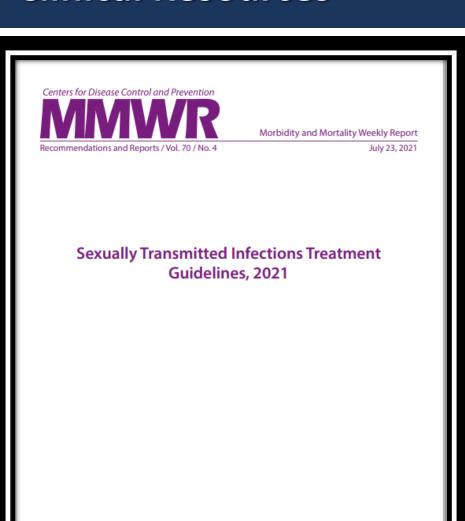






# **Provider Resources**

## Clinical Resources



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention





## **National STD Curriculum**

Self Paced Learning

FREE!



Seven 2nd Edition lessons and twenty-five question bank topics offer new CME, CME+MOC, CNE, and CE
 2nd Edition content includes new recommendations in the CDC 2021 STI Treatment Guidelines

Podcast series explores significant issues including testing for gonorrhea and antimicrobial resistance, HSV, and syphilis.

**CE Credits** 

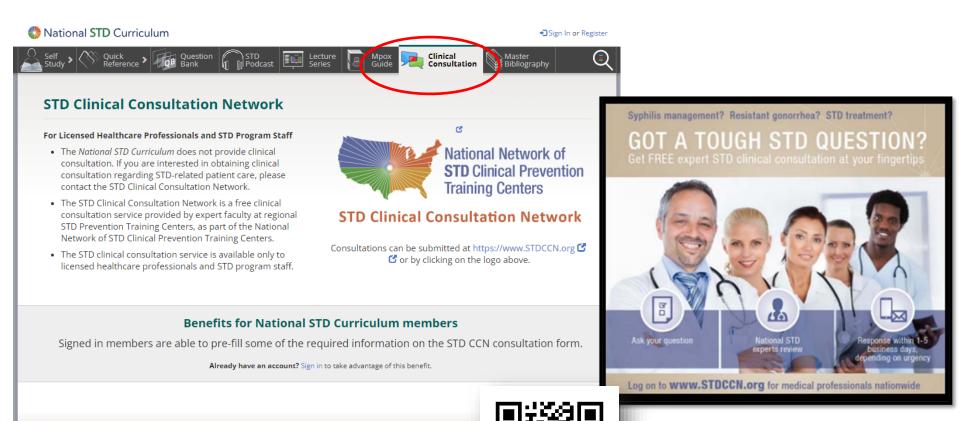
**Podcasts** 

with SME





## **Clinical Consultation**



https://www.stdccn.org/render/Public



## **Clinical Consultation**

#### **STD Clinical Consultation Network**



National Network of STD Clinical Prevention Training Centers

The Clinical Consultation Service is intended for licensed healthcare professionals and STD program staff. We do not provide direct medical care, treatment planning, or medical treatment services to individuals. Consultations are based on information provided by the caller without the benefit of a direct evaluation/examination of the patient, and as such, do not constitute medical advice, are intended to be used only as a guide.

The information provided through the Clinical Consultation Service is not a replacement for local expertise or your state STD program protocols. Information is offered as clinical decision support, is advisory in nature and is not intended to replace local healthcare decision-making or provision. Requestors are free to disregard any advice offered. Final clinical decisions are the sole responsibility of the healthcare provider.

STD CCN is conducting a PILOT HOTLINE for syphilis in pregnancy and congenital syphilis for the state of CALIFORNIA only. All other STD CCN warmline inquires will be answered in the usual timeframe of 1 to 5 days.

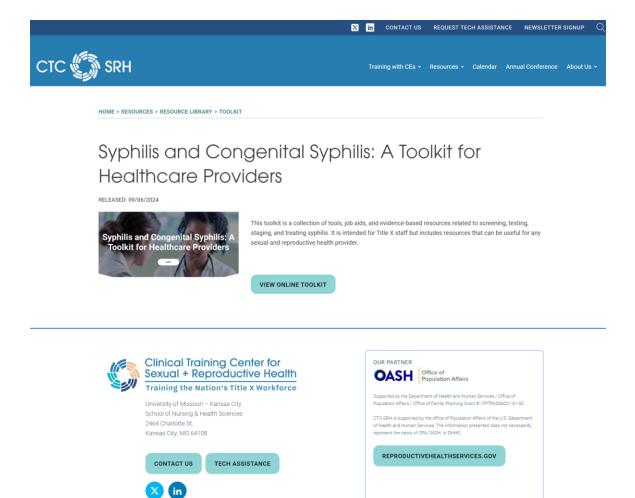
CONTINUE N

https://www.stdccn.org/render/Public





## Toolkit for Healthcare Providers





READ OUR PRIVACY POLICY

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## Provider and Patient Educational Resources





# MANY VOICES, ONE PLAN.

HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Substance Use Disorder, & Viral Hepatitis

HIV

Sexually Transmitted Infections

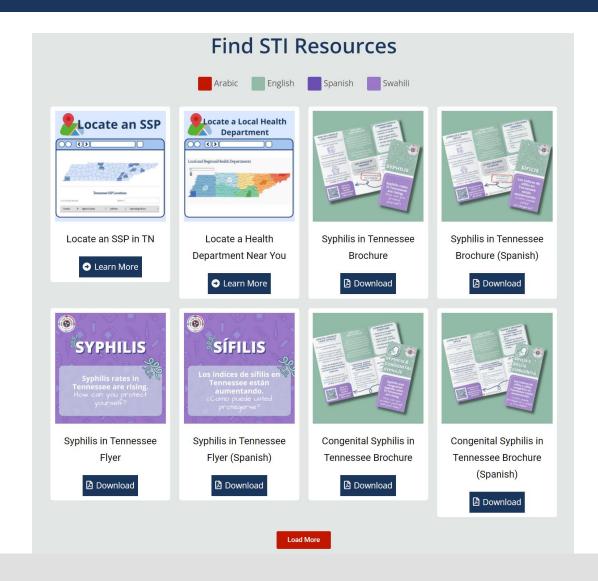
Substance Use Disorders

**Viral Hepatitis** 

Harm Reduction Hub



# Provider and Patient Educational Resources





# **Provider Resources – REDCap Syphilis History**



**A** A A **⊕** 

#### Tennessee Syphilis History Request

Licensed health care providers can access current and historical syphilis test results and treatment information for patients who are Tennessee residents to inform the diagnosis and management of syphilis in their patients. Clinical consultation is available at the National Network of STD Clinical Prevention Training Centers clinical consult network NNPTC Online Consultation.

The Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) maintains records of **positive** syphilis test results for Tennessee residents. Clinical laboratories (<u>laboratory instructions</u>) and healthcare providers (<u>healthcare provider instructions</u>) are required by law (T.C.A. §68 Rule 1200-14-01-.02) to report all positive syphilis test results for Tennessee residents. Additional information on reportable disease in Tennessee is available at this <u>link</u>.

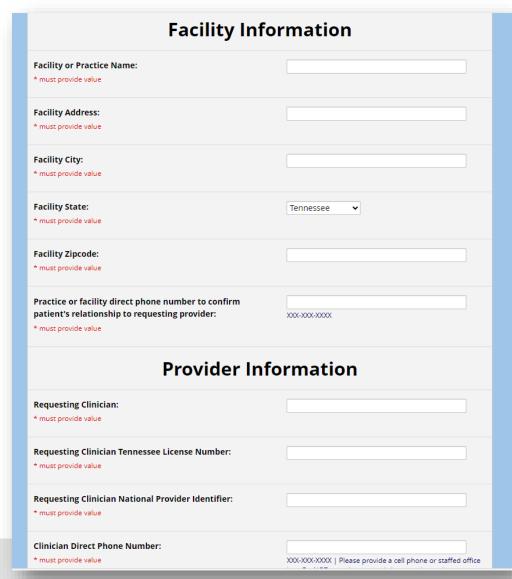
#### Instructions:

- 1. Complete the following survey
- 2. A Tennessee Department of Health employee will call the office/facility phone number to confirm that the individual is a current patient; once confirmed, the staff member will call the requesting provider preferred phone
- Test results and treatment history will be provided verbally then securely emailed to the requesting healthcare provider
- 4. If no results are found, a secure email will be sent to the requesting healthcare provider
- Institutional firewalls occasionally block receipt of emails. If you do not receive a response in the expected timeframe, please call 615-741-7500 and ask to speak with Rebecca Moore or Lavonne Cole





# **Provider Resources – REDCap Syphilis History**









**Questions?** 

# THANK YOU!



Cynthia C. Thomas, DO, MPH | Physician Northeast Regional Health Office 185 Treasure Lane, Johnson City, TN 37604 p. 423-979-4605 Cynthia.C.Thomas@tn.gov