

C4.5 – EXPEDITED PARTNER THERAPY

Policy


The purpose of this policy is to promote the health of individuals by treating the sex partners of patients diagnosed with STIs (chlamydia and/or gonorrhea). Clinical Services Providers may provide prescriptions or medications to the patient’s partner(s) without examining the partner(s). This practice is recommended by the [CDC](#) and allowed under Iowa Code section 139A.4.

Procedure

- When a client requires treatment for STIs, Clinical Services Providers should recommend that any sexual partners in the past 60 days be treated.
- Ideally, the partner(s) should attend the clinic to be evaluated, examined, tested, counseled and treated by a Clinical Services Provider.
- If the partner is unable or unwilling to seek medical care, Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) will be offered.
- If a client reports no partners in the past 60 days, education needs to be provided to the patient on safe sex practices. In addition, medication or a prescription is provided for the most recent partner.
- The client and partner will be instructed to avoid intercourse until 7 days after both have been treated.
- The patient’s chart will include information about the number of partners (names excluded) being provided with EPT, the medication, quantity and dosage provided to the partner. Each agency will determine how documentation is completed for EPT.
- Patient’s insurance or Medicaid will NOT be billed for EPT for their partner.
- Written medication information will be provided for each partner either in person or given to the client to give to the partner using medication sheets provided by Iowa HHS. Partners are encouraged to be clinically evaluated after receiving their EPT, informed of symptoms that need immediate evaluation, warned not to take medication if they are allergic, and informed of common side effects.

Header 2 based on policy

Date Revised	September 2023
References	Providing Quality Family Planning Services Recommendations of CDC and the U.S. Office of Population Affairs (QFP) [2014] https://www.hhs.gov/opa/guidelines/clinical-guidelines/quality-family-planning/index.html

	<p>Title X Program Handbook (https://opa.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08/title-x-program-handbook-july-2022-508-updated.pdf) </p>
<p>Additional Resources</p>	<p>The United States Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use, 2016 (US MEC) - https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/rr/rr6503a1.htm?s_cid=rr6503a1_w </p> <p>Expedited Partner Therapy in Iowa: https://hhs.iowa.gov/media/7600/download?inline </p>