

# STD Reporting Procedures Questions and Answers

As you may know, reporting of STD's is now possible through the Iowa Disease Surveillance System (IDSS). In order to report a positive STD lab result in IDSS, please report the laboratory just as you would any other disease in IDSS.

The **STD infections (Chlamydia, gonorrhea, and Syphilis)** are all reported by using the "**STD**" value listed in the Disease drop-down list. The STD infections also contain some look up tables with HIV/AIDS information. Because the HIV Surveillance Office requires a significant amount of other information that cannot be placed in IDSS, continuing to use the HIV/AIDS Reporting Form is the preferred method for reporting HIV/AIDS. Placing any HIV/AIDS information in the IDSS system will prompt IDPH to follow-up with a request that the full reporting form be completed.

When creating an initial report, be sure **to include the laboratory results** in the Laboratory Findings table found on the Laboratory Findings tab. This is the key information that prompted you to make report and public health needs that information.

A few questions have been raised:

Q1. If I report through IDSS am I still supposed to report STD's using the paper reporting card?

A1. It is not necessary to report through IDSS and by paper; either method is sufficient. Reporting through IDSS is preferred. Please [place treatment information on the Notes tab](#) – See [question and answer # 4 below](#).

A2. If you report by paper, you can follow the same procedures you've been following by reporting to either your local public health agency or directly to IDPH.

Q2. If I report through IDSS, do I still need to separately report to the local public health agency?

A1. No, all local public health agencies have access to IDSS and will be informed about new cases as needed by IDPH staff.

Q3. If a local public health agency receives a report of an STD from either a laboratory or a physician, should the local public health agency make the report in IDSS or should the report be referred to the disease prevention specialist?

A1. The STD program at IDPH needs this information. Although IDSS presents another reporting option for you, continue doing what you currently do when you receive a report from a physician. If you direct the physician to the disease prevention specialist – continue to do this; if you take the information and make the report yourself, continue to do that using IDSS.

Q4. On the paper reporting card, there is a place for treatment information. I don't see any place in IDSS for this information. Do I need to report this information in IDSS? If so, where do I put it?

A1. Because the STD follow-up form contains partner information, it is blocked from view for those who are not involved in the investigation. Therefore, there isn't a tidy place for the STD treatment information to be entered unless you are part of the STD investigation group. Please enter the treatment information as follows:

1. [Examining](#) facility – enter on the Event (cont'd) tab under Healthcare Provider Facility
2. [Examining](#) provider – enter on the Event (cont'd) tab under Healthcare Provider
3. [Treating](#) facility – enter on the Notes tab, if different from examining provider.
4. [Treating](#) provider – enter on the Notes tab, if different from examining provider.
5. Treatment date(s) – enter on the Notes tab
6. Treatment drug – enter on the Notes tab
7. Treatment dose – enter on the Notes tab