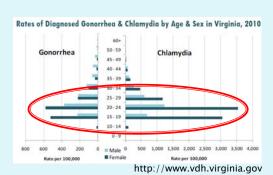
Expedited Partner Therapy: An Innovative Strategy

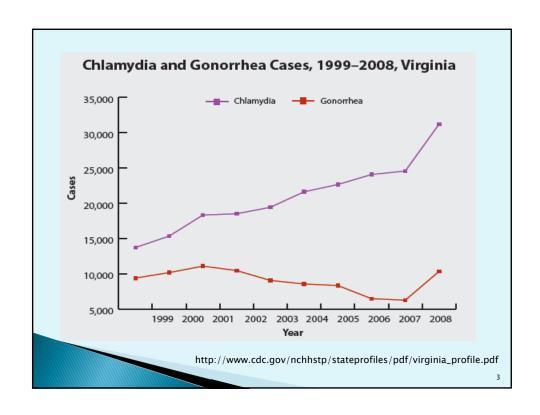
Robin L. Hills, MS, WHNP-BC, CNE
Clinical Assistant Professor, VCU School of Nursing
Doctoral Student - University of Virginia
Women's Health Nurse Practitioner

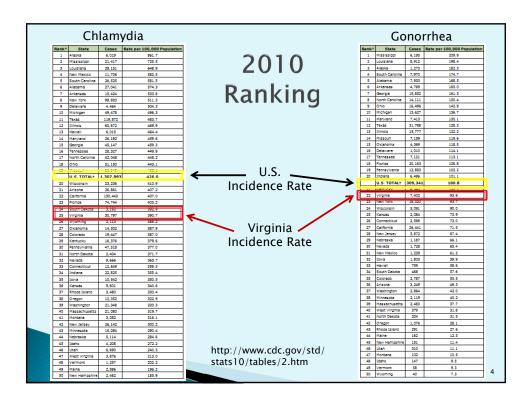
The Silent Enemy

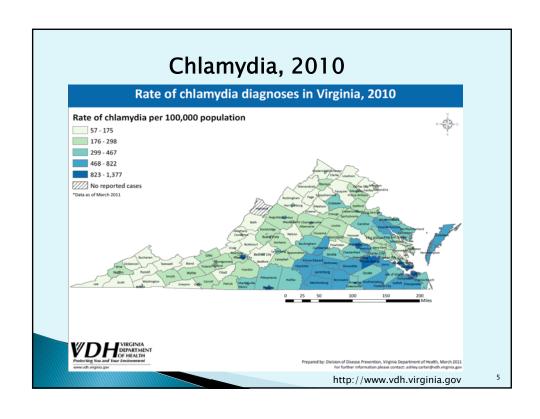
- Gonorrhea and Chlamydia affect women and men
- Serious conditions
 - female infertility
 - tubal pregnancy
 - chronic pelvic pain

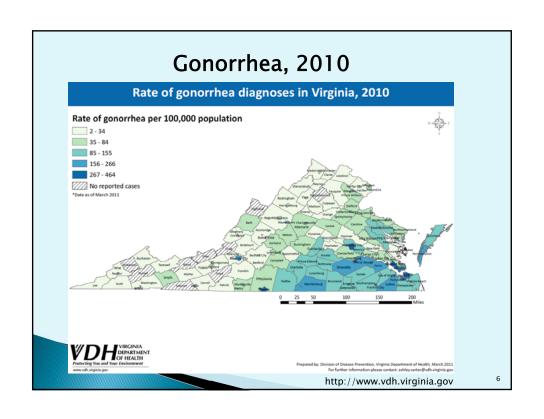


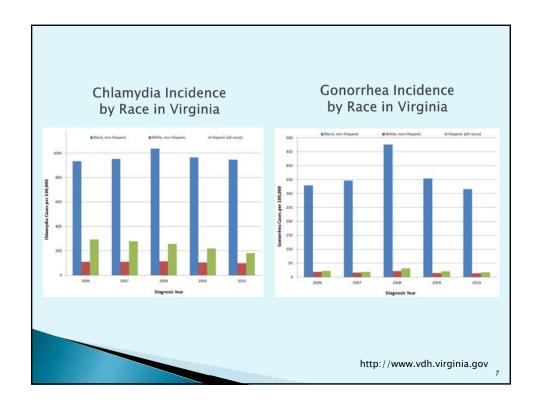
EFFECTS ARE MORE CLOSELY LINKED TO REINFECTION THAN TO INITIAL INFECTION











Standard Partner Referral

- Standard partner referral approach
 - treat the index patient with the appropriate antibiotic regimen and ask the patient to notify his or her sexual partner so that the partner can seek treatment

INADEQUATE

- This is an ineffective approach because male partners are less likely to seek treatment due to stigma and/or denial
 - men are often asymptomatic and, therefore, less likely to believe they need treatment

EPT Defined

Expedited Partner Therapy

the clinical practice of treating the sex partners of patients diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea by providing prescriptions or medications to the patient to take to his/her partner without the health care provider first examining the partner

Patient-Delivered Partner Therapy

www.cdc.gov/ept

2007 Systematic Review

- Reviewed randomized trials to examine the effectiveness of any intervention supplementing simple patient referral
- In all 4 studies of patients diagnosed with gonorrhea or chlamydia:
 - more partners were treated when EPT was used compared to simple patient referral
 - persistent or recurrent infection rate was lower when EPT was used compared to simple patient referral

Trelle, 2007

CDC 2006 Recommendation

CDC has concluded that EPT is a useful option to facilitate partner management among heterosexual men and women with chlamydial infection or gonorrhea. The evidence indicates that EPT should be available to clinicians as an option for partner management

. . . EPT represents an additional strategy for partner management that does not replace other strategies, such as standard patient referral or provider-assisted referral, when available. Along with medication, EPT should be accompanied by information that advises recipients to seek personal health care in addition to EPT.

http://www.cdc.gov/std/DearColleagueEPT5-10-05.pdf,

National Organizational Support

Supporting Opinions from:

- American Medical Association
- American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists
- Society for Adolescent Medicine
- American Bar Association

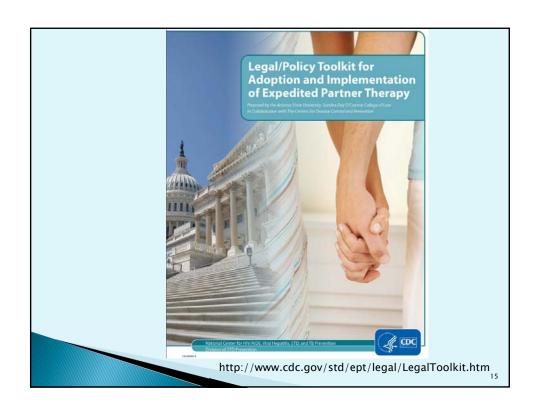
Other States are Taking Action

- > 2006 → only 10 states permitted EPT
- 2012 → 32 states permit EPT as an option for partner management

13

Concerns to Address

- Medicolegal concerns regarding liability
- Potential adverse effects of medications
 - Allergy/Side Effect profile is low
 - · Chlamydia: Azithromycin 1000mg in a single dose
 - · Gonorrhea: Cefixime 400mg in a single dose
- Funding
 - Additional dispensing costs for VDH



Legislative Options Used in Other States

- Medical Board Policy Statement
- Regulatory Revisions
- Statute Amendments

State	Type of Law	Effective Date
Alaska	Regulation	9/9/2010
Arizona	Statute	9/25/2008
Connecticut	Statute	10/1/2011
Idaho	Statute	7/1/2012
Illinois	Statute	1/1/2010
Indiana	Regulation	10/28/2011
Iowa	Statute	7/1/2008
Louisiana	Statute	6/25/2008
Maine	Statute	7/12/2010
Massachusetts	Statute	7/1/2011
Missouri	Statute	8/28/2010
	Medical Board Policy	
New Hampshire	Statement	4/7/2004
New York	Statute	1/23/2009
	Medical Board Policy	
North Carolina	Statement	1/1/2009
North Dakota	Regulation	1/1/2009
Oregon	Regulation	2/8/2010
Rhode Island	Statute	6/25/2010
	Medical Board Policy	
South Carolina	Statement	2/1/2011
Texas	Regulation	6/24/2009
Vermont	Statute	7/1/2009
Wisconsin	Statute	5/26/2010

Medical Board Policy Statement

SOUTH CAROLINA 2/1/2011

It is the position of the South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners that Expedited Partner Therapy treatment of STDs should be used "in accordance with the most current established guidelines as published by these organizations, even in the absence of a previously-established patient-physician relationship." South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners Post Exposure Prophylaxis Policy. The "Post Exposure Prophylaxis Policy" states that EPT is "recommended by numerous medical professional and public health organizations... to protect specific persons from acquiring contagious/ communicable diseases from close contact with infected persons."

Regulation Change

TEXAS 6/24/2009

Notwithstanding the provisions of this subparagraph, establishing a professional relationship is not required for: (i) a physician to prescribe medications for sexually transmitted diseases for partners of the physician's established patient, if the physician determines that the patient may have been infected with a sexually transmitted disease 22 Tex. Admin. Code §190.8(1)(L)(iii)

"An advanced practice registered nurse may prescribe medications for sexually transmitted diseases for partners of an established patient, if the advanced practice registered nurse assesses the patient and determines that the patient may have been infected with a sexually transmitted disease. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require the advanced practice registered nurse to issue prescriptions for partners of patients." 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 222.4(e)

Statute Change

LOUISIANA 6/25/2008

"Any physician or any advanced practice registered nurse...may prescribe, furnish, or otherwise provide prescription antibiotic drugs to that patient's sexual partner or partners absent a doctor-patient relationship or absent an advanced practice registered nurse-patient relationship and without examination...of that patient's sexual partner or partners." La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 40:1064.1.

'If expedited partner therapy is chosen as an atemative by a physician, advanced practice registered nurse or physician assistant, the patient with a case of gonorrhea or chlamydia will be given an informational document that the patient agrees to give to his or her sexual contact. Additionally, any pharmacist licensed to practice pharmacy in this state may recognize a prescription authorized by this section as valid, notwithstanding any other provision of law or administrative rule to the contrary.'La. Admini. Code tit. 51 Part II Chapt. 1 § 117 (H)

The Louisiana Board of Pharmacy issued a bulletin, to notify pharmacies and pharmacists of La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 40:1064.1 so they will "recognize prescriptions for antibiotics issued under Expedited Partner Therapy as legitimate prescriptions."

17

Conclusion

The evidence presented today was the basis for

- ▶ H.B. 2083 Del. Herring
- ▶ S.B. 1317 Sen. McEachin
- H.J. 147 Del. Herring
- It is my hope that actions will be taken to permit Virginia providers to implement EPT as a partner treatment option