

STD Management: Current Protocol Changes and Clinical Challenges

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Faculty

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Objectives

- Describe the current STD Protocol changes
- Identify different ways to test, examine, and treat patients seeking STD services
- Discuss clinical challenges and possible solutions to change client behaviors

Current Protocol Changes

- Overview
- Visit standards
- Clinical indicators
- STD drug precautions

Overview

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 - HIV unawareness by infected persons
 - Emerging HIV prevention issues
 - Continues challenges for clinicians

Visit Standards

- STD patients with high blood pressure
 - Symptomatic patient
 - Contacts
 - Reactive test results
 - Unless these patients exhibit symptoms of hypertension as described in the Abnormal Findings Chapter, they must be treated

Clinical Indicators

- Darkfield procedure
- Competency requirement
 - No longer required for DIS and nurses
 - Dedicated STD clinics with Laboratory Technicians will maintain competency

STD Drug Precautions

- Diluting Ceftriaxone
 - Dilute with 1% Lidocaine
 - If patient is allergic to Lidocaine, use sterile water for injection
 - Order Lidocaine when ordering Ceftriaxone
 - Keep water for injection on hand at all times for patients who may be allergic to Lidocaine

Clinical Challenges

- Managing frequent visitors
- STD charges and fees
- Reducing STD cases in Alabama

Managing Frequent Visitors

- Are patients abusing our services?
- “Just want a check up”
Asymptomatic patient
- Symptomatic patients
- Contacts

STD Testing

- Should we continue to test patients who tested negative 3-4 time?
- How many times can we test a patient for STDs within a year?

Charging STD Patients Fees

- Can we charge STD patients and partners a fee?
- Will a required fee help to change frequent visiting practices?
 - Funding criteria

Reducing STD Cases in Alabama

- How can we help reduce STD cases in Alabama?
- How effective is risk reduction education?

Alabama STD Rankings

- In the nation
 - 3rd for Syphilis
 - 4th for chlamydia and gonorrhea
 - 7th for congenital syphilis
- How can we improve Alabama STD rankings?