Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT)/Patient Deliver Partner Therapy (PDPT)

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Objectives

- Describe the terms Expedited partner therapy (EPT) and patient delivery partner therapy (PDPT)
- Provide a national overview of the legal status for EPT
- Highlight the limitations associated with health department partner management
- Describe the benefits associated with EPT/PDPT
- Identify training resources for providers and patients
EPT and PDPT?

- **Expedited Partner Therapy** “is the practice of treating the sex partners of persons with sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) without any intervening medical evaluation or professional prevention counseling.”

- **Patient Delivered Partner Therapy** “is based on the patient’s willingness to deliver medicine (patient-delivery) and the partner’s willingness to take it (partner-use).”
Where is EPT Legal?

Connecticut(?), Maine(?), Massachusetts(?), New Hampshire(?), New Jersey(?), New York(?), Pennsylvania(?), Puerto Rico(?), Rhode Island(?), Vermont(?)
Limitations with Health Department Partner Management

- U.S. health departments provide partner notification services to fewer than 20 percent of people diagnosed with gonorrhea or chlamydial infection

- Traditional public health partner services were ineffective when provided outside of the STD clinic setting

- Outside of STD clinics, health departments have no resources to help clinicians ensure that their patients' partners are treated

- Approximately one-half of potentially exposed partners receive treatment
Benefits to EPT or PDPT

- Limited access to care does not allow for everyone to be seen by a physician.
- Health departments and private providers do not have the resources to follow-up on every partner that have been exposed to an STI.
- Allows for partners to work together.
- Potentially increases the proportion of partners treated.
Training for EPT/PDPT

- No single repository of training and support tools for EPT/PDPT
- Subject-matter experts, CDC personnel, and practitioners created a web-based portal www.partnercare.org
- “For providers, a real-world, interactive, implementation video case, documents the PDPT process”
- “For patients/partners, model patient-partner interactions and short-animated informational segments on key PDPT topics”
References

- Minnesota Department of Health. Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) for Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae: Guidance for Medical Providers in Minnesota. IDEPC Division, STD and HIV Section of the Minnesota Department of Health.
Resources

For More Information About How You Can Get Involved
Please Contact:

- Your Local Health Department
- CDC’s Division of STD Prevention [www.cdc.gov/std](http://www.cdc.gov/std)
  or me at dbj1@cdc.gov
- American Social Health Society [www.ashastd.org](http://www.ashastd.org)
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