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Public Health Provider Alert - Congenital Syphilis Hotline Pilot and Sexually Transmitted Infections Guidance

Congenital syphilis (CS) continues to be on the rise in California and throughout the United States. To address this critical issue, the California Prevention Training Center (CAPTC) is providing a “pilot congenital syphilis hotline” for providers from January to March 2024. This hotline is for any urgent clinical consultations involving CS or syphilis in pregnancy. **California clinicians can visit www.stdccn.org and receive same day call back from a subject matter expert through this hotline. The hotline is available 24/7 (including nights and weekends).**

Below are guidance and resources for testing, treatment, and reporting of sexually transmitted infections (STIs):

- Any cisgender women of child-bearing age should have a pregnancy test completed at the time of STI testing.
- Due to the shortage of Bicillin L-A, it is recommended that pregnant people and infants should be prioritized to receive Bicillin L-A and consider alternate acceptable treatment when possible, for non-pregnant persons. Please refer to the [Dear Colleague Letter](#) from September 2023 for the guidance.
- Nevada County Public Health Department has a supply of Bicillin L-A that is available for our community providers. If you are unable to obtain Bicillin L-A for syphilis treatment of a patient, please contact the Communicable Disease Control team at 530-265-7051 to make arrangements for medication pick-up or drop-off.
- Please see the California Department of Public Health [Dear Colleague Letter](#) dated January 26, 2024 regarding the use of powdered benzathine Benzylpenicillin (Extencilline) for the treatment of syphilis.
- **Providers are required by Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations to report suspected, lab-confirmed, and clinical diagnoses of syphilis and gonorrhea to the client’s county of residence.** Please see [Nevada County Communicable Disease Control Reporting](#) for a list of reportable diseases and conditions and reporting forms. Web reporting of diseases is also available within the [CalREDIE Provider Portal](#). Please contact Lyndsey.Tyrna@nevadacountyca.gov for assistance in enrolling.

Additional resources:

- [CDPH Clinical Guidelines and Tools](#)
- [CDPH STI Treatment Guidelines for Adults and Adolescents](#)

- [CAPTC Resources](#)
- [Clinical Interpretation of Syphilis Screening Algorithms](#)

A graphic for a 'CONGENITAL SYPHILIS HOTLINE PILOT'. It features a central smartphone icon with a speech bubble, a stethoscope, a red telephone cord, and a map of California. The text 'CONGENITAL SYPHILIS HOTLINE PILOT' is written in bold black letters on the phone screen.

California Clinicians:
Do you have an **URGENT**
congenital syphilis case
and need **SAME DAY**
expert consultation?

January 1 – March 31, 2024
www.stdccn.org

 National Network of
STD Clinical Prevention
Training Centers

 California PTC

Thank you for providing excellent care to Nevada County residents and keeping the community healthy.