

Tribal Clinic STD Policy Checklist

High quality, accessible medical and laboratory services are essential elements in the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. Because our community members are often reliant on Tribal or IHS clinics to obtain their health services, it is critical that they integrate high quality STD screening, diagnosis, and treatment services. If these services cannot be provided by the local clinic, clinic practices must ensure that patients are referred to other available resources.

Please take a moment to review this checklist . If you answer “No” to any of these practices, please contact Project Red Talon for examples demonstrating how these policies have been successfully implemented by other Northwest Tribes. This checklist is for your own clinic’s use, and does not need to be returned to Project Red Talon.

Check if your clinic has the following services, policies, and practices to prevent the transmission of Sexually Transmitted Infections:	YES	NO
Range of Services		
The clinic provides STD and HIV testing and treatment		
Patients diagnosed with HIV are promptly referred to early intervention services.		
If STD services are provided by the clinic, the clinic has an on-site stat laboratory or capacity to perform stat tests.		
Clinic Policies and Procedures		
Clinic policies and procedures ensure that all patients receive confidential STD and HIV services in adherence to HIPPA, Federal, and State regulations.		
Clinicians follow current CDC-recommended treatment guidelines for all STDs.		
The Clinic Operations Manual contains site-specific procedures to prevent and manage occupational blood exposure for clinic staff.		
The Clinic Operations Manual contains policies and procedures that address post-exposure prophylaxis for patients.		
The Clinic Operations Manual contains policies and procedures supporting Partner Delivered Therapy or Expedited Partner Therapy.		
The Clinic Operations Manual contains policies and procedures that allow minors to access services without parental consent.		
Patients believed to be exposed to an STD are treated prophylactically at the time of exam.		
The clinic provides condoms and counseling on primary prevention to all patients.		

	YES	NO
Clinician Performance Standards		
Clinicians and clinic managers attend at least one STD/HIV update training course every two years.		
Case Reporting		
Clinic procedures ensure that morbidity reports are promptly submitted following the diagnosis of a reportable STD to the state or county Health Department.		
Partner Services		
Clinic practices ensure that one of three strategies are used to notify partners of possible exposure to STD or HIV infection: 1) Provider, 2) Self, or 3) Contract referral.		
Disease Intervention Services		
At least one clinic staff person is responsible for providing DIS services or connecting patients to the County's DIS system. Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) reinforce the counseling messages provided by clinicians, interview and counsel patients, and locate partners who may be at-risk for STDs.		
Screening - Clinic practices ensure that:		
All sexually active females less than 26 years old are screened for chlamydia and gonorrhea at least once per year.		
All young, sexually active men are screened routinely for chlamydial and gonococcal infections.		
Older males and females with known risk factors ¹ are screened for chlamydia and gonorrhea at least once per year.		
All persons with known risk factors ¹ receive serologic screening for syphilis.		
Routine, voluntary HIV screening occurs for all persons 13-64 (not based on risk or local prevalence rates.) Repeat HIV screening occurs at least annually for all persons with known risk.		
Sexually active, HIV-infected persons are screened at least annually for STDs.		
All pregnant women are tested for chlamydia, gonorrhea, hepatitis, bacterial vaginosis, syphilis, and HIV at the first prenatal visit.		

¹ **STD/HIV Risk Factors include:** Men who have sex with Men (MSM), persons who exchange sex for money or drugs, persons with multiple sex partners or partners who have exchanged sex for money or drugs, persons admitted to jails, persons who have used unsterilized equipment for sun dance or tattoos, and users of illicit drugs.

