

Title: STI/HIV Screening Policy	Policy Number: 2.2
Approved by: Joe Holliday MD, MPH	Program Area: Family Planning
Effective Date: 1988	Revised Date: 1/6/14

Purpose Statement of Policy:

To provide screening, treatment, counseling, and referral for sexually transmitted infections (STI) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) to family planning clients seeking services in Title X Family Planning Clinics in North Carolina.

Definitions:

Sexually transmitted infections include but are not limited to:

Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), Hepatitis B, Herpes Simplex, Syphilis, Trichomonas, and HIV.

Screening: Use of appropriate screening tests to identify/diagnose the above mentioned STIs according to laboratory and national guidelines. A sexual risk assessment must be performed for every person seeking services in the Family Planning Clinic. An example of an STI risk assessment/history can be found on the Communicable Disease website:

http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/lhds/manuals/std/clinical/History_and_Interview.pdf

All positive results for any mandated reportable infections must be reported to the Communicable Disease Branch as per their protocols.

Treatment: Use of appropriate treatment modalities and/or regimens based on diagnosis and according to CDC STD Treatment Guidelines, or other medically accepted treatment regimens. For a list of medications recommended on the Communicable Disease Branch manual, use the following link:

<http://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/2010/STD-Treatment-2010-RR5912.pdf>

Medication provided by the state must be used for treatment of STDs only. Those medications provided by the state as one-dose therapies should be provided as directly observed therapy (DOT).

Counseling: All clients shall receive thorough and accurate counseling (an interactive process in which the client is assisted in making an informed choice) on STIs and HIV to include: risk assessment and risk reduction, prevention, and transmission of the infection.

Referral: If the agency does not offer these services for individuals who are diagnosed with a positive HIV test, the agency must provide the client with a list of healthcare providers who can provide this follow-up.

Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the local health department and its designated personnel to assess, develop, educate, and insure that all family planning clients receive STI and HIV assessments and if required or indicated by history, physical, method or previous lab tests, receive the appropriate screening test. It is also the local health department's responsibility to insure that clients are counseled on their personal risk of acquiring an STI and the steps to be taken by the individual to reduce the risk.

Policy:

The local health department will insure that a written policy is in place for the provision of STI/HIV risk assessment, counseling, screening, treatment and referral to all appropriate family planning clients at the time of their exam.

Legal Authority:

This policy is based on Title X regulations (January, 2001) sections 8.3 and 9.2 as well as program requirements found in the Family Planning Agreement Addendum.

References:

The following website provides a complete explanation of state statutes and Communicable Disease Branch recommendations and procedures:

<http://www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/hiv/stdmanual/toc.html>

Title X Guidelines can be accessed at:

https://www.grantsolutions.gov/gs/servlet/document.DownloadPdfPublicServlet?document_id=7157

Example policies may be obtained from the Women's Health Regional Nurse Consultants.