



January 31, 2011

Dear Colleague:

I am pleased to present the *Legal/Policy Toolkit for Adoption and Implementation of Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT)*, prepared by Arizona State University (ASU), Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Public Health Law and Policy Program, in collaboration with CDC's Division of STD Prevention.

On May 13, 2010, the Division of STD Prevention, in collaboration with ASU, convened a consultation of subject-matter experts to identify, characterize, and assess the barriers to adoption and implementation of laws and policies that authorize the practice of EPT. During the consultation, stakeholders identified and prioritized specific tools needed to inform policymakers and practitioners about key issues related to EPT authorization and implementation.

This Toolkit is the principal outcome of the consultation and provides resources to assist states that are interested in adopting laws supportive of EPT, as well as to assist states that had adopted such laws, with addressing barriers to their full implementation.

The Toolkit is accessible at <http://www.cdc.gov/std/ept>, and includes the following four tools:

- (1) Sample State Legislative Language on Liability Issues Related to Expedited Partner Therapy;
- (2) Discussion of Selected Issues Related to Practitioners' Liability for Harms to Partners Through Expedited Partner Therapy;
- (3) Frequently Asked Questions: Health Information Privacy for Physicians, Pharmacists, and Other Healthcare Practitioners Concerning Expedited Partner Therapy; and
- (4) Considerations for Drafting and Implementing Legislation and Regulations Concerning Expedited Partner Therapy.

As you use this Toolkit, please keep in mind that it is not designed to provide specific legal guidance or advice. Before using the information in this Toolkit you should seek the assistance of official state and local legal counsel.

We hope this Toolkit will be of immediate practical value to states in various stages of EPT adoption and implementation, and welcome your suggestions for making it more useful. Please send your comments and suggestions to cdcept@cdc.gov.

Sincerely,

/Charlotte Kent/
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