



December 16, 2010

Dear Colleague:

We are pleased to announce publication of *Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines—2010*,” in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) December 17, 2010 issue of *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) Recommendations and Reports*. These guidelines for the treatment of patients who have sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) were developed by CDC after consultation with a group of professionals knowledgeable in the field of STDs who met in Atlanta, Georgia from April 18–30, 2009.

The *Guidelines* are based on newly available evidence and include

- Expanded STD prevention recommendations, including HPV vaccination;
- Revised gonorrhea treatment regimens;
- New treatment regimens for genital warts and bacterial vaginosis;
- The role of *Mycoplasma genitalium* and trichomoniasis in the evaluation of urethritis and cervicitis and treatment-related implications; and
- Revised guidance on the diagnostic evaluation and management of syphilis.

Over 19 million cases of STDs occur in the United States each year, with a disproportionate share among young people and racial and ethnic minority populations. The estimated annual direct medical costs of treating STDs and their sequelae are \$16.4 billion. Left untreated, STDs can cause serious health problems ranging from infertility to increased risk of HIV infection. The 2010 *Guidelines*, which update the 2006 *Guidelines*, serve as a source of clinical guidance and advise health care providers on the most effective treatment regimens, screening procedures, and prevention and vaccination strategies for STDs. CDC revises the *Guidelines* periodically, approximately every three to four years, using a scientific, evidence-based process that includes CDC and external expert review of current scientific literature.

To obtain a copy of the *Guidelines*, please go to our website at www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/2010/ or contact CDC-INFO at 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636), 24 hours/day, or e-mail cdcinfo@cdc.gov. You will also be able to order wall charts and pocket guides on our website or by contacting CDC-INFO. A podcast featuring lead author, Dr. Kimberly Workowski, will be posted on www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/2010/ on December 20th for viewing. CDC is also developing iPhone and eBook applications of the *Guidelines*. We encourage you to visit our website for additional information and updates on all of these products.

Sincerely,

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