



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

Gregory N. Larkin, M.D., F.A.A.F.P.
State Health Commissioner

October 28, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to inform you that the Indiana Medical Licensing Board's rule change to allow Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) for Chlamydia and gonorrhea was signed by Governor Daniels and filed in the Indiana Register on September 28, 2011, and becomes effective today, October 28, 2011! It can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/20111026-IR-844110044FRA.xml.pdf>

A copy of this rule is also attached for your convenience.

This means that a licensed physician in Indiana has the option (but is not required) to provide or dispense medication, per CDC guidelines, to the sex partner(s) of a patient diagnosed with Chlamydia or gonorrhea without having examined the sex partner(s). Physicians choosing to provide EPT for their patients must also:

1. provide notification to the infected patient that all partners should be evaluated and treated,
2. provide written materials for the infected patient to give to partners as described in Indiana Administrative Code 844 IAC 5-4-2,
3. dispense medications or prescriptions for partners to the infected patient, and
4. maintain appropriate documentation as described in 844 IAC 5-4-2.

We are sending out notification of the rule change to our STD clinic partners today. Many of them have anticipated this change and are prepared to implement it immediately. We will be notifying all other physicians in the state via our email distribution list once supporting materials have been posted on our website. We will send you the appropriate link to our website for you to include in your communications with physicians and patients once it is up and operational.

I'd like to thank you all for your support and assistance over the past several years. It was your partnership that made this a reality. Please contact me at 317-233-7164 or via email at jduwve@isdh.in.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Joan Duwve, MD, MPH
Chief Medical Officer

844 IAC 5-4-2 Expedited partner therapy

Authority: [IC 25-22.5-2-7](#)

Affected: [IC 25-1-9](#)

Sec. 2. Section 1 of this rule does not apply if the physician is prescribing or dispensing medications

for the treatment of Chlamydia trachomatis or Neisseria gonorrhoeae to sex partner(s) of the physician's

diagnosed patient without requiring examination of the sex partner(s). Medications must be in accordance with current professional theory or practice for the treatment of these infections. The current

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines shall

be considered an authoritative source of such current professional theory or practice. Partner management of patients with gonorrhea or chlamydia shall include providing the following items:

- (1) Notification to the infected patient that all partners should be evaluated and treated;**
- (2) Written materials for the infected patient to give partners that state that a clinical evaluation is desirable; lists common medication side effects and the appropriate response to them; fact sheets regarding sexually transmitted diseases; and emergency contact information;**
- (3) Prescriptions or dispensed medications and accompanying written materials shall be given to the physician's patient for distribution to named partners; and**
- (4) The physician shall maintain appropriate documentation of partner management.**

Documentation

shall include the names of partners, if available, and a record of treatment provided. If the partner's name is not available, documentation shall be kept within patient's file.

(Medical Licensing Board of Indiana; [844 IAC 5-4-2](#); filed Sep 28, 2011, 11:06 a.m.: [20111026-IR-844110044FRA](#))