



# STI & HIV PARTNER SERVICES FOR CLINICIANS

Partner notification, testing, and treatment are crucial for STI and HIV prevention and control. Reviewing all options with your patients is encouraged.

It is important that patients feel supported in this process. Assumptions and judgments regarding an individual's gender identity, orientation, sexual behaviors, or partner notification decisions should be avoided.<sup>1</sup>

## PARTNER NOTIFICATION OPTIONS

*The STI(s) and clinic/hospital specific protocols and procedures will help determine the appropriate course of action.*

### • Patient-Initiated Referral

- Encourage the patient to contact their partners by phone, text, or email.

### • Online Anonymous Notification Tools

- [Tellyourpartner.org](https://tellyourpartner.org) is an online tool that sends an anonymous text message to partners encouraging them to seek testing and treatment. No names are used in this process.

### • Clinician-Initiated Referral

- The patient can authorize you to contact partners with them or independently, while maintaining patient confidentiality.
- Contact your local or state health department for advice regarding partner notification in suspected/confirmed partner violence situations.

### • Public Health Official-Initiated Referral

- Patients can authorize public health officials to confidentially notify partners and connect them to testing and treatment services.

## PARTNER TREATMENT

- If a partner of the patient is unable or unlikely to seek testing and treatment, expedited partner therapy (EPT) may be a suitable option. EPT is the practice of prescribing medication to treat the sex partner(s) of patients diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea without examining the partner(s) directly.
- Shared-decision making regarding EPT is recommended due to increased risk of coinfection with other STIs.<sup>2</sup>

### References:

1. The toolkit for technology-based partner services for Public Health. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed November 5, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/std-ips/php/index.html>.
2. Gonococcal infections among adolescents and adults - STI treatment guidelines. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. September 21, 2022. Accessed November 5, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/gonorrhea-adults.htm>.



**For free and  
confidential at-  
home  
STI tests, visit:**

**[iwantthekit.org](https://iwantthekit.org)**

Patients can authorize I  
Want the Kit to notify  
you of their test results.  
To facilitate this, be sure  
patients have your full  
name.



# STI & HIV PARTNER SERVICES

## RESOURCES FOR CLINICIANS

Click the link below or scan the QR Code

[CDC Guide to Taking a Sexual History](#)



[CDC Partner Services for HIV Diagnosis](#)



[CDC EPT Resources](#)



[IHS Guide for Express STI Services](#)



[CDC Partner Services Overview](#)



[New Mexico Partner Services](#)



[Colorado Partner Services](#)



[Texas Partner Services](#)

