



# Field Treatment for Syphilis for Pregnant People and their Partners

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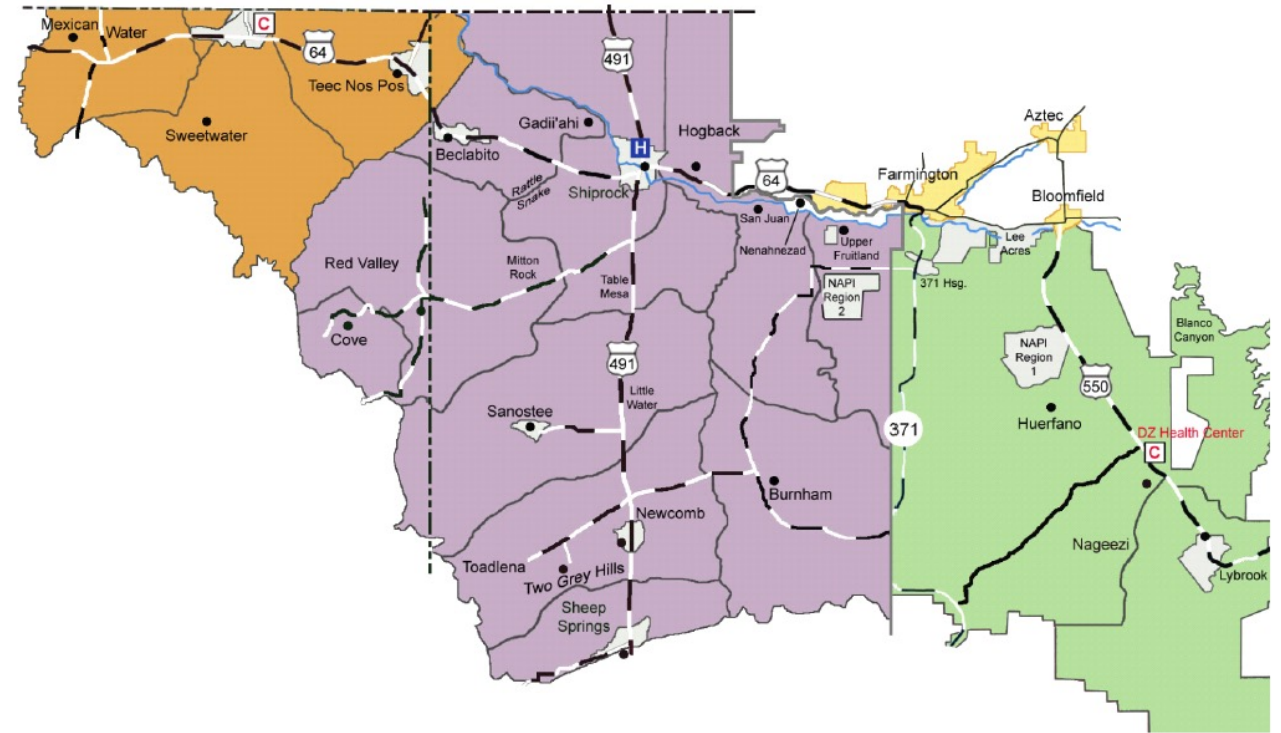
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# Background Info on Syphilis Rates in NM and NNMC PHN

- San Juan County is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest county in New Mexico for high rates of Syphilis and congenital syphilis.

New Mexico is 2<sup>nd</sup> in high rates of syphilis.

Our Shiprock Service Unit covers a large area of NW NM. It is the largest geographical service unit of Navajo Area Indian Health Service (NAIHS)



Our NNMC PHN team covers all the purple, yellow and green areas for STI testing/treatment

# NNMC PHN STI Taskforce

- ▶ 2 PHNs (Myself and Candace Deal, RN)
- ▶ 1 Health Tech – Dolores Gruber
- ▶ Multiple docs – Dr. Ann Vaughn (PHN-STI doc), Dr. Atwell (Sih Hasin Street Medicine doc), Dr. Murphy (Infectious disease doc-NNMC)
- ▶ Handle all of our STI consults as a team.
- ▶ Created our own Syphilis PHN Tracking Excel Sheet for new patients, completed treatment, follow ups for repeat labs
- ▶ Work with Sih Hasin Street Medicine team to assist with treatment and testing – Every Wednesday is Farmington street med day – Eugenia acts as the RN for the street med team on Wednesdays.
- ▶ Evaluate and identify high risk patients

# NNMC PHN STI Taskforce

- ▶ Our PHN STI taskforce obtains approximately 29 consults per month for Syphilis; with February being our highest month for consults thus far.
- ▶ Every week we are receiving 7-10 syphilis referrals for treatment/CT. In addition, we receive all the other STIs and complete those consults.
- ▶ Every patient that is screened for labs at NNMC, has an RPR screening.
- ▶ Pregnant and/or high risk females take priority.
- ▶ Our goal for PHN is to treat for all STIs.

# PHN Taskforce Process

- ▶ Consult is created and given to PHN STI Coordinator- Eugenia
- ▶ Chart review completed. Identify risk level for each patient.
- ▶ Contact patient by using face sheet – call all phone numbers and attempt to do a home visit if not able to contact by phone.
- ▶ Review facebook, SJCDC for possible incarceration, talk with Social Hygiene Tech for chart review via PRISM and check Cerner at San Juan Regional Medical Center. Find out more contact information.
- ▶ Obtain orders from our PHN STI MD and obtain supplies. Orders for labs (Gonorrhea, chlamydia, Trichomonas, Hep C, HIV, RPR, HCG (if pregnant))
- ▶ Orders for PCN. If other STI labs are back – orders for medications for treatment of those STIs are done as well.

# PHN STI Taskforce Process cont.

- ▶ Locate patient and test/treat right away.
- ▶ Chembio testing completed as well for partner(s) if available.
- ▶ Bring pre-packed STI lab draw packets just in case a person is reactive for RPR or HIV on the chembio.
- ▶ Bring urine HCG point of care and complete for positive syphilis females.
- ▶ Bring condoms.
- ▶ Meet the patient anywhere.
- ▶ Offer after hours to accommodate patient's work schedule/availability.
- ▶ Provide \$10 giftcard incentive (receiving treatment)

# Patient Encounter and Follow Through

- ▶ Meet the patient wherever they are most comfortable.
- ▶ Complete lab draw/urine collection.
- ▶ Bring penicillin and treat on the spot. ID allergy to PCN. Bring anaphylaxis kit.
- ▶ Complete contact tracing
- ▶ Make plans to meet again next week at any location if the patient needs more than 1 dose of PCN.
- ▶ Review completed labs and if patient needs treatment for other STIs, treat patient in the field.
- ▶ Get good contact information if you can.
- ▶ Offer Incentive \$10 giftcard

# Challenges of Treatment

- ▶ Unable to locate – Patients and their partners may move to different homes, relocate to AZ, CO or UT.
- ▶ Substance abuse issues – High rates of meth use and alcohol abuse
- ▶ Unsheltered and homeless – no adequate housing, living with friends/extended family
- ▶ Domestic violence – not wanting to have their partners get tested because of fear of abuse
- ▶ Non working cell phone, transportation issues
- ▶ Incarcerated



# Link Patients Back Into Care

- ▶ Get next OB appointment scheduled and inform the patient.
- ▶ Assist with ID how to obtain transport for this patient – consult with OB RN Case manager
- ▶ Work with Sih Hasin Street Medicine team to help with obtaining dating Ultrasound if patient has problems with transportation and to obtain prenatal vitamins or assist with any other medical problems.
  - ▶ Our street medicine team works with San Juan County Partnership to help with housing.
  - ▶ Assist patient with temporary housing or if experiencing DV, help with placement in a women's shelter.
- ▶ Help with substance abuse issues - placement for treatment for substance abuse. Provide accudetox.

# PHN Taskforce Struggles/Highlights

- ▶ 2 of our taskforce members left NNMC (Health tech and data entry)
- ▶ Working more to keep up with the number of STI consults coming in.
- ▶ We continue to work hard to serve our area of coverage. We have a dedicated STI team.
- ▶ Patients like the home visits and ability to provide patient care outside of the hospital.
- ▶ Ability to use chembio and field test

# Questions / Contact Information

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