



June 30, 2008

Dear Syphilis Elimination Coordinators:

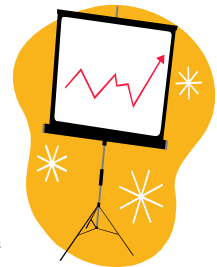
This is the second quarter 2008 letter to state and local health department members of our Syphilis Elimination Coordinators network. We hope this newsletter finds you all well and provides you with useful updates and helpful information as we move into the second half of 2008.

### **SE Coordinators' Webinar**

The next SE Coordinator Webinar will be **July 22, 2008 from 2:00 – 3:30 EDT**. This Webinar will review results from the SE Coordinators' survey, provide a tutorial for joining *STD Prevention Online*, and feature the Implementation and Monitoring Group's (IMG) new 2009 Guidance for Evidence-based Action Planning (EBAP). To prepare for the webinar, please see the attached revised EBAP guidance which includes the following changes: (1) adding an objective to the EBAP framework; (2) recommendations for the minimum number and type of EBAPs your program may want to highlight; and (3) new examples of EBAPs. A special thanks to project areas who allowed us to share their finely written EBAPs!

### **Public Health Program Support Courses**

The Division of STD Prevention, Program and Training Branch (PTB) has created an updated course schedule for 2008. Upcoming courses include [Introduction to STD Intervention \(ISTDI\)](#), [Advanced STD Intervention \(ASTDI\)](#), [STD Intervention for Supervisors \(STDIS\)](#), and [Principles of STD Supervision](#). PTB continuously solicits programs interested in sponsoring these courses. Please note that Host Programs are encouraged to register appropriate staff members for the courses. To ensure the best learning environment, no more than 50% of the participants can be from the host area. Any slots that are still available four weeks prior to the training are made available to the host program. For more information about these training opportunities and copies of the course schedule contact [Sheila McKenzie](#) at 404-639-8357.



### **HIV/STD Partner Services (PS) Recommendations & PS Implementation Alternatives Learning Tour**

Delivery of PS for HIV has often differed from delivery of PS for other STDs. These differences have led to confusion among public health professionals, fragmented services for clients, and concerns about this important prevention strategy among members of communities affected by both STDs and HIV. CDC has developed a single, integrated set of recommendations for both HIV and STD programs. The revised recommendations are based on extensive review of the literature, program experience, and stakeholder input. The integrated guidelines use common strategic logic for PS, but recommend different approaches for the various infections. Although the revised recommendations provide a single, unified set of recommendations to serve as the basis for HIV and STD PS programs, developing them is only one part of the process. To ensure that the recommendations are appropriately implemented when the recommendations are published later this year, a cross-divisional implementation team is meeting to develop plans for communications, training, technical assistance, and capacity building to support these recommendations.

David S. Novak, the Syphilis Elimination Program Coordinator is a member of the implementation team conducting a series of sites visits designed to learn more about health department collaborations with community-based organizations (CBOs) to provide Partner Services. The workgroup will visit four sites this summer: Massachusetts, Houston, Chicago, and Los Angeles. The goal is to provide technical assistance information to other health departments which may want to include CBOs in their plans for providing PS.



## CDC-Developed Resources and Updates

### ➤ ***STD Data Management & Information Technology***

The Statistics and Data Management Branch announced the availability of a new web page devoted to data management and information technology issues. Current contents include the updated version of the NETSS Implementation Guide for STD morbidity reporting, system requirements documents for development of an STD information system, and a listing of available STD information systems. The primary purpose of the new page is to provide a central clearinghouse for data management information and information technology issues in STD prevention programs at all levels. Programs are encouraged to actively participate and to submit materials to publish on the new web page. <http://www.cdc.gov/std/Program/data-mgmt.htm>



### ➤ ***CDC Health E-cards***

Send an STD awareness and prevention electronic greeting card to friends, family and coworkers.

### ➤ ***Availability of Cefixime for the Treatment of Gonorrhea***

Oral treatment for gonorrhea are again available in the U.S. Please see CDC [Press Release](#), [Dear Colleague Letter](#), and [MMWR](#) for details.

### ➤ ***NCHHSTP e-newsletter***

[Connections](#), a bi-monthly NCHHSTP e-newsletter communication tool to improve collaboration, and strengthen relationships with external partners.

### ➤ ***2006 Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project (GISP) Annual Report***

<http://www.cdc.gov/std/gisp2006/default.htm>

### ➤ ***2008 National STD Prevention Conference***

[Presentations](#) from the March 2008 conference are now available online.

## Additional Resources

### ➤ ***National Guidelines for Internet-based STD and HIV Prevention***

Three separate guidelines for Outreach, Partner Notification, and Health Communications are available online to help both shape your local Internet policies and procedures and/or inform your syphilis elimination program efforts!

As always, should you have any further questions or suggestions we are eager to hear from you. Please contact Jo Valentine directly at (404) 639-8366 or via electronic mail at [jvalentine@cdc.gov](mailto:jvalentine@cdc.gov).

The CDC Syphilis Elimination Effort Coordinating Team

