

APPENDIX D

Moderator's Briefing Sheet: STD Definitions and Slang Terms

MODERATOR'S BRIEFING SHEET: STD DEFINITIONS AND SLANG TERMS

Chlamydia

The Clam, Goopy Stuff

Chlamydia is a common and curable infection caused by the bacteria *Chlamydia trachomatis*. The bacteria target the cells of the mucous membranes including: the surfaces of the urethra, vagina, cervix and endometrium; the fallopian tubes; the anus and rectum; the lining of the eyelid; and less commonly, the throat. People infected with chlamydia are often co-infected with gonorrhea. Therefore, patients with chlamydia are often treated for gonorrhea at the same time, since the cost of treatment is less than the cost of testing.

Gonorrhea

Dose, Clap, Drip

Gonorrhea is a curable infection caused by the bacteria *Neisseria gonorrhoea*. The bacteria targets the cells of the mucous membranes including: the surfaces of the urethra, vagina, cervix and endometrium; the fallopian tubes; the anus and rectum; the lining of the eyelid; and the throat. People infected with gonorrhea are often co-infected with chlamydia; therefore, in patients with gonorrhea treatment is often prescribed for chlamydia as well, since the cost of the treatment is less than the cost of testing for chlamydia.

Hepatitis

Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver that can be caused by a group of viruses. There are five major types of viral hepatitis: Hepatitis A (HAV), Hepatitis B (HBV), Hepatitis C (HCV), Hepatitis D (HDV), and Hepatitis E (HEV). HAV, HBV and HCV are the most common types of viral hepatitis found in the United States. Sexual activity poses a different level of risk for each type of viral hepatitis, but is most closely associated with HBV. Hepatitis A and B are preventable through vaccination, though no vaccination currently exists for hepatitis C or E. Since hepatitis D only infects persons with active hepatitis B, the vaccine for hepatitis B prevents hepatitis D.

HIV/AIDS

Has the Package, HI-v

Human immunodeficiency virus or HIV, is a virus that attacks the immune system resulting in Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, or AIDS. Over time, infection with HIV can weaken the immune system to the point that the system has difficulty fighting off certain infections. The immune system of a person with AIDS has weakened to the point that medical intervention may be necessary to prevent or treat serious illness.

Human papillomavirus

HPV

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a virus that affects the skin in the genital area, as well as a female's cervix. Depending on the type of HPV involved, symptoms can be in the form of wart-like growths, or abnormal cell changes. In the United States, HPV is considered to be the most common STD.

Pelvic inflammatory disease

PID

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) is a serious infection in the upper genital tract/reproductive organs (uterus, fallopian tubes and ovaries) of a female. PID can be sexually transmitted or naturally occurring. It can lead to infertility in women (unable to have children) or life-threatening complications. Two other sexually transmitted diseases, chlamydia and gonorrhea, are the most common causes of PID.

Syphilis

Pox, Bad Blood

Syphilis is a curable infection caused by the bacteria *Treponema pallidum*. The bacteria enter the body through mucous membranes or abraded skin. Once inside the body, syphilis enters the blood stream and attaches to cells, damaging organs over time. There are four stages through which untreated syphilis progresses, each stage with its own unique signs and symptoms: primary, secondary, latent, and tertiary (or late).