

- Chlamydia is the most commonly reported sexually transmitted disease (STD) in Washtenaw County, in Michigan and in the United States.
- Over 1,300 cases of Chlamydia were reported in Washtenaw County in 2012.
- If left untreated, Chlamydia in a female may lead to infertility.

Adult Health Clinic: Chlamydia

Washtenaw County Public Health operates an Adult Health Clinic at the 555 Towner Human Services building. Patients are seen for sexual health screenings, relationship issues and HIV/STD treatments and referrals. The clinic provides services for patients starting at age 13. In 2012, our youngest patient was 13 and the oldest was 87.

Chlamydia is the most commonly reported STD in Washtenaw County, in Michigan and in the United States. Females under 25 years old carry the burden of this disease, accounting for over 50% of cases in Washtenaw County. Testing is especially important for females in this age category because if left untreated, Chlamydia can lead to infertility.

The Adult Health Clinic staff follows up on all cases of Chlamydia through the Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS). Our clinic verifies if treatment and education was given by the provider who diagnosed the patient. If not, the Adult Health Clinic staff searches out the patient to educate and treat them.

The Adult Health Clinic staff has worked hard to determine the best, most current means to contact adolescents. With the ever changing technology environment, it is imperative to remain progressive in our efforts to use social media for outreach. We have used Facebook, email, phone calls and texting to contact patients. Our success in locating patients is also due to making our messages personal and relevant to their situation. Sometimes messages have to be very blunt and direct. Once the patient is found, we have a conversation about their diagnosis, we provide education on how to decrease risky behavior, and we ensure that treatment is taken as prescribed. Patients are offered the opportunity to inform their partners of the need for testing and treatment, or the Adult Health Clinic staff will do so in a confidential manner without mentioning the infected patient's name or situation. During any given week, 30-40 patients are contacted for STD counseling and follow-up.

What is WCPH doing to address this issue?

WCPH offers STD testing and treatment, as well as sexual partner notification. Staff provide single or multi-session programs in schools and other community settings to address HIV/STD prevention. Staff provide off-site walk-in clinics at various sites through out the county, including the Robert J. Delonis Center and at the St. Andrew's Breakfast Program in Ann Arbor. Staff also provide free HIV and STD testing at the Washtenaw County Jail for all inmates who request testing.

For more information:

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