



Sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections: Guides for health professionals

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) provides public health guidance for the prevention and management of sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections (STBBI). PHAC's STBBI guides for healthcare providers and public health professionals outline national recommendations for:

- the screening and diagnosis of STBBI
- the treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STI) of national public health importance

These guides replace the Canadian Guidelines on Sexually Transmitted Infections. PHAC's STBBI guides do not supersede:

- provincial/territorial legislative, regulatory, policy and practice requirements
- any professional guidelines that govern the practise of health professionals in their respective jurisdictions, whose recommendations may differ due to local epidemiology or context

Treatment recommendations include indications for the level and quality of evidence.

Sexually transmitted and blood-borne infection guides

Find key information and public health guidance for the screening, diagnosis and treatment (if available) of:

- Anogenital warts (caused by human papillomavirus)
- Chlamydia (including lymphogranuloma venereum)
- Genital herpes
- Gonorrhea
- Hepatitis B
- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
- Mycoplasma genitalium
- Syphilis

Information on best practices for the prevention and management of STBBI

- Sexually transmitted blood borne infections (STBBI) prevention guide
- STI-associated syndromes guide

This guide provides an overview of the management of the following sexually transmitted infection (STI)-associated syndromes: Anogenital ulcers, cervicitis, epididymitis, pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), proctitis, urethritis and vaginitis. Limited information about mpox and extensively drug-resistant *Shigella* (XDR *Shigella*) are contained in the Syndromic management tab, the Anogenital ulcers tab and the Proctitis tab.

National Advisory Committee on Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections (NAC-STBBI)

PHAC's STBBI guidelines are developed in collaboration with an expert advisory committee with members from across Canada. Visit the NAC-STBBI webpage to learn more about the committee and its workplan.

NAC-STBBI statements

- NAC-STBBI Recommendations on the use of prophylactic doxycycline for the prevention of bacterial STI (chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis) [approved by NAC-STBBI June 2025; executive summary published November 2025]
- NAC-STBBI recommendations on screening for *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* for non-pregnant adults/adolescents [approved by NAC-STBBI September 2024; executive summary published January 2025; full statement published November 2025]
- Interim guidance for the treatment of uncomplicated gonococcal infections [approved by NAC-STBBI September 2023; executive summary published December 2024; full statement published July 2025]
- NAC-STBBI recommendations on screening for syphilis among sexually active adults and adolescents and high prevalence groups [approved by NAC-STBBI August 2023; executive summary published September 2023; full statement published May 2024]
- NAC-STBBI recommendations on screening for *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* in pregnancy [approved by NAC-STBBI October 2022; full statement published May 2023]

Additional resources

PHAC also produces awareness resources based on the guidelines. These resources for health professionals include factsheets, infographics and Canada Communicable Disease Report (CCDR) articles.

Awareness resources

- Hepatitis C for health professionals
- HIV and AIDS for health professionals
- Summary: HIV antiretroviral medication coverage in Canada
- Mpox (monkeypox): For health professionals
- For health professionals: Shigellosis (Shigella)

Factsheets and infographics

- Doxy-PEP quick reference for health professionals (infographic)
- Staging a syphilis infection in adolescents and adults: Selected physical exam findings according to stage of disease
- Simplified algorithm for clinical syphilis staging and treatment in adolescents and adults
- Let's talk about syphilis (infographic)
- Screening recommendations for chlamydia and gonorrhea in pregnancy in Canada, 2023
- Chlamydia, gonorrhea and infectious syphilis in Canada: 2021 surveillance data update
- Preventing HIV transmission: Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U) for health professionals (fact sheet)
- Preventing HIV transmission: Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U): Communication tips for health professionals

CCDR articles

- Risk of sexual transmission of HIV in the context of viral load suppression
- Translating evidence into practice with the National Advisory Committee on Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections
- Addressing the rising rates of gonorrhea and drug-resistant gonorrhea: There is no time like the present