

Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT)

EPT for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea - Permitted in Maryland as of June 1, 2015

What Is EPT?	Who Can Provide EPT in Maryland?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) is the practice of providing antibiotic therapy to the sex partners of persons diagnosed with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) without an intervening medical evaluation. EPT is not intended to replace traditional partner notification and management. It can be a valuable option, though, for reaching partners who are unlikely or unable to seek medical care. The gold standard for partner management remains direct clinical assessment and treatment. In Maryland, EPT can be provided through the direct provision of medications or by prescribing antibiotic therapy for chlamydia or gonorrhea. EPT is not mandatory, but is permissible for certain health care providers in Maryland. See "Who Can Provide EPT in Maryland." 	<p>The following health care providers in public and private health care settings, and in accordance with their Practice Acts, may prescribe or dispense EPT to the sexual partner(s) of patients diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea,:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A physician licensed under Title 14 of the Health Occupations Article; An Advanced Practice Registered Nurse with Prescriptive Authority licensed under Title 8 of the Health Occupations Article acting in accordance with § 8–508 of the Health Occupations Article; An authorized physician assistant licensed under Title 15 of the Health Occupations Article acting in accordance with § 15-302.2 of the Health Occupations Article. A registered nurse employed by a local health department who complies with: (i) The formulary developed and approved under § 3–403(b) of this article; and (ii) The requirements established under § 8–512 of the Health Occupations Article.

2015 CDC STD Treatment Guidelines for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea

CHLAMYDIA TREATMENT	UNCOMPLICATED GONOCOCCAL INFECTIONS OF CERVIX, URETHRA, & RECTUM
<p style="text-align: center;">Azithromycin 1 g orally in a single dose OR Doxycycline 100 mg orally twice a day for 7 days</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p style="text-align: center;">For EPT, and if Ceftriaxone not available: Cefixime 400 mg PLUS Azithromycin 1 gram</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Otherwise:</i> Ceftriaxone 250 mg as a single IM dose PLUS Azithromycin 1 g orally</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Doxycycline moved to alternative regimen</i></p>

For the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2015 STD Treatment Guidelines, go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/std/>

Changes to MD Confidential Morbidity Report Form DHMH-1140 – EPT information now included!

Changes include, among other things, information about provision of EPT. Revised form, a fillable pdf, is available [here](http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/Pages/what-to-report.aspx): <http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/Pages/what-to-report.aspx>.

Effective Date: June 1, 2015. The Maryland DHMH has developed EPT regulations, and is developing guidance and educational materials. These will be posted for downloading on the DHMH Center for STI Prevention Web site as they become available: <http://tinyurl.com/EPTMaryland>.