



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

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BCCDC Supporting Documents for STI Clinical Practice
Standard Education for Sexually Transmitted Infections and Blood-Borne Infections (STBBI)

STANDARD EDUCATION FOR SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED & BLOOD-BORNE INFECTION (STBBI)

Comprehensive sexual health education includes principles of prevention, testing, treatment and engagement into ongoing care and support. Education and management should be tailored to meet the unique sexual health needs of the individual and occur at the first available opportunity to support continued access to care. Using an equity lens, care should be trauma-informed, culturally safe, and supportive of gender-affirming care, using inclusive language.

Infection-/syndrome-specific education can be found in the corresponding NNPBC or BCCDC supporting documents and medication handouts. Additional education may include:

- benefits of routine STBBI screening
- asymptomatic nature of some STIBBIs
- STBBI transmission
- STBBI-specific [incubation and window periods](#)
- follow-up process and how results can be accessed
- co-infection risk for HIV when other STBIBIs are present
- potential complications of untreated infections and syndromes
- use of [medications](#): dosage, side effects, and need for re-treatment if dosage not completed
- importance of follow-up if symptoms persist or new symptoms develop
- harm reduction strategies such as:
 - regular condom use
 - cleaning sex toys between use, using condoms if sharing sex toys
 - not sharing drug equipment used for preparing or using drugs
 - access to local [needle distribution sites](#) and [overdose prevention sites](#)
 - access to local naloxone training and kit distribution sites [[Take Home Naloxone](#) (THN) program]
 - access to local clinics prescribing [opioid agonist therapy](#) (OAT)

BCCDC Supporting Documents for STI Clinical Practice
Standard Client Education for Sexually Transmitted Infections and Blood-Borne Infections (STBBI)

- [HIV PrEP](#) or [PEP](#) information, assessment and/or referral
- contraception management information, assessment and/or referral (e.g., [Options for Sexual Health](#))
- discuss and offer immunizations (e.g., HAV, HBV, HPV)
- community-specific resources for ongoing care and support (e.g., mental health & psychosocial supports)

Resources

- [BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS](#) (HIV, AIDS, PrEP, PEP/nPEP)
- [BCCDC Immunization Manual \(CDC Manual; Chapter 2\)](#)
- [CATIE](#) (HIV and HCV)
- [Options for Sexual Health](#) or **1-800-SEX-SENSE** (sexual health, birth control, Pap testing, pregnancy support, STI)
- [SmartSexResource.com](#) (STBBI and sexual health information)
 - [STI handouts](#)
 - [Medication handouts](#)
- [Assessment and Diagnostic Guideline: STI and Care and Treatment Plans](#)
- [STI Non-certified Practice DSTs](#)
- [Toward the Heart](#) (for information related to harm reduction, THN, OAT, overdose prevention sites)
- [Trans Care BC](#) (gender-affirming care)
- [Trauma-informed Practice Guide](#)