

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

STANDARD CLIENT 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 individualized according to risk and clinical assessments, and should occur at the first available opportunity to avoid risk for loss to follow-up. Using an equity lens, care should be trauma-informed, culturally safe, and supportive of gender-diversity, using non-stigmatizing language.

Infection-/syndrome-specific education can be found in the decision support tools (DSTs) and medication handouts. Additional education may include:

- benefits of routine STI screening
- asymptomatic nature of STIs
- STI transmission
- STI-specific [incubation and window periods](#)
- follow-up process and how results can be retrieved
- co-infection risk for HIV when another STI is present
- potential complications of untreated infections and syndromes
- use of [medications](#): dosage, side effects, and need for re-treatment if dosage not completed, or if symptoms do not resolve
- 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 paraphernalia used for the preparation or use of drugs, [local needle distribution sites](#) and [overdose prevention sites](#)
- local naloxone training and kit distribution sites [[Take Home Naloxone](#) (THN) program]
- local clinics prescribing [opioid agonist therapy](#) (OAT)
- [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)
- [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](#) (STI and sexual health information)
 - [STI handouts](#)
 - [Medication handouts](#)
- [STI Certified Practice DSTs](#)
- [STI Non-certified Practice DSTs](#)
- [Toward the Heart](#) (for more information related to harm reduction, THN, OAT, overdose prevention sites)
- [Trans Care BC](#) (gender-affirming care)
- [Trauma-informed Practice Guide](#)

