

PARTNER NOTIFICATION FOR SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

Rationale for partner notification

- to prevent re-infection of the index patient
- to break the chain of transmission
- to prevent complications of untreated infection

Look back periods

In order to identify all partners at risk it is important to take a thorough sexual history (see guideline on sexual history taking). Look back periods for specific infections are as follows:

Chlamydia	1 month 6 months or last partner if longer	symptomatic males asymptomatic males and all females
Gonorrhoea	2 weeks 3 months or last partner if longer	symptomatic males asymptomatic males and all females
NSU	current partner	
Epididymitis	current partner	
PID	current partner	
Trichomonas	current partner	

Refer patients with HIV or syphilis to the GUM clinic and partner notification will be carried out by health advisers.

Encourage patients to inform all partners identified as being at risk of infection and advise them not to have sexual contact with any current partner(s) until they have been treated. Giving the patient a contact letter to pass on to their partner(s) can be helpful – see example below.

Refer to health advisers at the GUM clinic for any complicated partner notification eg. if a patient has contact details for a partner but is unwilling to speak to them. Health advisers can be contacted on 01225 824558.

Ideally follow up patients 2 weeks after treatment (by phone) to check treatment compliance, no sexual contact and to check if partners have been informed. This is also an opportunity for health promotion and encouraging condom use.

DEPARTMENT OF GENITO URINARY MEDICINE

Tel: 01225 824558/824617

Date:	Reference Number:
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Dear

This letter is to inform you that you have been in contact with someone who has

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This is a treatable sexually transmitted infection. Often people with this infection feel well and have no symptoms.

It is very important that you are tested and treated. Therefore take this letter to any of the following places:

1. The sexual health (GUM) clinic in Bath (Tel: 01225 824617 / 824558)
2. Your General Practitioner's (GP) surgery
3. A sexual health clinic anywhere in the UK (www.playingsafely.co.uk)

If you have any questions or concerns please phone the health advisers on 01225 824558 or the Sexual Health Helpline 0800 567 123.

Yours sincerely

Health Adviser/Doctor/Nurse

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Date: May 2007
Version: 1.1

Review date: May 2008

DEPARTMENT OF GENITO URINARY MEDICINE

Tel: 01225 824558/825574

Date:	Reference Number:
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Dear Doctor

Thank you for screening and prophylactically treating this person who is a contact of:

Infection(s)	Tick	*Recommended treatment for contact:
Chlamydia		Doxycycline 100mg bd x 1 week or Azithromycin 1g stat
Non Specific Urethritis (NSU)		Doxycycline 100mg bd x 1 week or Azithromycin 1g stat
Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID)		Doxycycline 100mg bd x 1 week or Azithromycin 1g stat
Epididymitis		Doxycycline 100mg bd x 1 week or Azithromycin 1g stat
Trichomonas Vaginalis (TV)		Metronidazole 400mg bd x 5 days or Metronidazole 2g stat
Gonorrhoea		Cefixine 400mg stat plus Doxycycline 100mg bd x 1 week or Azithromycin 1g stat

*These treatments are appropriate provided the person is not allergic and women are not (potentially) pregnant.

The patient should be advised not to be sexually active during treatment and for 1 week afterwards.

Please return this letter to the clinic address above to confirm attendance and complete the treatment box below.

Yours sincerely

Treated by	
Where treated	
Date	

Health Adviser/Doctor/Nurse

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