**QUALITY IMPROVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

A Quality Improvement brief brought to you by the Managed Care Quality and Monitoring Division

**IMPROVING CHLAMYDIA (CHL) SCREENING**

**DISPARITY OF CHL INFECTIONS IN CALIFORNIA (CA)**

CHL and Gonorrhea cases in CA are at highest reported levels since 1990.

![CHLAMYDIA CASES BY SEX (2018)](image)

- **Female**: 712
- **Male**: 449
- 56% more than past 10 years

![CHLAMYDIA CASES BY ETHNICITY (2018)](image)

- Black/African American communities experience a higher burden of CHL and gonorrhea infection compared to other ethnic groups.
- CA CHL rate is higher than the national rate per 100,000 for all age groups, races and sexes.

- **San Francisco** had the sharpest increase of CHL infections in 2018.

Affects ages 15 to 24

5 OUT OF 10 CHL CASES

- Higher incidence of CHL in females (2018)
- Higher incidence of gonorrhea in males (2018)
- Untreated CHL: Risk of HIV, infertility

Incarcerated individuals, military recruits and public STD clinic patients demonstrated higher rate of CHL and gonorrhea infection.

![583 (CA) 540 (US)](image)

- **583 (CA)**
- **540 (US)**

Screening for CHL reduces the incidence of Pelvic Inflammatory Disease by 60%.

**EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES FROM A PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL**

- **POPCULATION**: Females ages 14-18
- **INTERVENTION**: 4 Stage Clinical Improvement Initiative
  - Development of Clinic Flow Chart
  - Promotional materials
  - Monthly team meetings
  - Use of performance indicators
  * Universal urine specimen collection at registration prior to examination.

- **Result**: Increase in testing was achieved within a few months and sustained for 12 months.
  - **65%**

- **POPCULATION**: Clinic setting serving a wide range of age groups
- **INTERVENTION**: Use of External Advisor
  - Raised awareness of chlamydia in the clinic.
  - Trained staff on chlamydia guidelines

- **Result**: Increase in the number of CHL tests performed in females during a six month period.
  - **176%**

- **POPCULATION**: Clinic setting
- **INTERVENTION**: Point of Care (POC) Computer Reminders
  - Conducted on-screen computer reminders on processes and outcomes of care in comparison to passive prompts of attaching a reminder sticker to medical records or including CHL information on laboratory form results.

- **Result**: Median improvement in CHL test ordering for POC computer reminders versus passive prompts.
  - **3.8%**

(click on images above for more information)
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Vol. 1, Issue 10
3.9.2020

Utilizing Social Media to Promote CHL Testing

Population: Adolescents and young adults

Intervention: Sexual Health Promotion Campaign using Facebook linked to a website

Use of a graphic interchange format (GIF) messaging animation

You are unique
You are important
Your sexual health matters to us

(GIF animation lasts 10 seconds on a loop x 7 weeks)

- Users click on website link to order CHL test kits
- CHL test kits delivered to the address of choice

Result
Increase in CHL test kit orders compared to the baseline period before the intervention.

PRACTICES FROM HEALTH PLANS TO INCREASE CHL SCREENING

Provider-related
- Physician profiles on measures compared to peers

Member-related
- Annual preventive magazines for members
- Birthday letters to members

Find out more
(click on images above and below for more information)

Other Useful Resources on CHL

Screening Guidelines
- USPSTF Screening Guidelines
- Helps clinicians identify the right clinical preventive services for their patients with CHL

CHL Screening Resources
- Provider - Engagement Resources
- Includes case studies and tips that can be utilized by providers to improve CHL screening

Economic Burden and Health Impact
- Economic Impact
- Compares the economic impact of CHL infection to other sexually transmitted diseases

Access the DHCS Quality Improvement Toolkit or contact your DHCS NC