



THE PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

Published by Clinton County Health Department

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June 2011

Volume 17 Issue 2



Chlamydia Treatment Advances with Expedited Partner Therapy

Chlamydia infection is a "leading cause of tubal infertility, Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID), infertility and ectopic pregnancy." according to a Health Notification recently distributed by the NYSDOH.

In 2010, Clinton County Health Department received reports of 183 diagnosed cases of Chlamydia.

Untreated partners often result in the re-infection of the patient. Partners may remain untreated as a result of not having health insurance, being embarrassed to seek treatment or he/she doesn't feel the need due to lack of symptoms.

New York State Public Health Law now allows providers to treat partners of diagnosed Chlamydia patients without having to examine and test the partner.

Expedited Partner Treatment allows healthcare providers to give the patient treatment for his/her partner at the time of diagnosis. A single oral dose of 1g azithromycin can be provided

in either pill form or by prescription. **Providers prescribing EPT within the parameters of the law will "not be subject to liability or deemed to have engaged in professional misconduct".**

For specific information regarding the regulation and the limitations to this law please visit www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/std/ept/index.htm

Saying Goodbye to MOMS, Hello to IPO!

As you may already know, Medicaid is facing many changes at the state level requiring Clinton County to soon change from the traditional Medicaid program to a mandatory Medicaid Managed Care Program.

What you may not know is that, as a consequence of this change, the Clinton County Health Department is phasing out the MOMS program, a successful prenatal program with a 15+ year run in the county.

In order to continue to serve the high risk prenatal community, the Health Department decided to improve an existing, local program to replace the valuable and effective MOMS program. This program is called the Improved Pregnancy Outcomes Program (IPO).

On June 1, 2011 IPO (Improved

Pregnancy Outcomes) began offering a comprehensive plan of nursing services for women at risk. Criteria for enrollment in the program include age 19 or younger, late prenatal care, missed OB appointments, learning challenges or a need for additional education, non-English speaking and certain other criteria as appropriate. CCHD will provide this service at no fee to the participant.

There are no income or insurance requirements. Each participant will receive education and nursing supportive services focusing on pregnancy, delivery, and parenting. Education about nutrition and safe physical activity during pregnancy will be provided. Referrals will be made to a nutritionist where appropriate. Support and assistance with psychosocial issues will also be provided.

There will no longer be the opportunity for women to obtain health insurance through the Health Department. The women will be responsible for acquiring their own health insurance coverage through the Medicaid Managed Care program or private insurance.

CCHD is excited to be able to continue to work with the expectant women in our community. If you would like more information or to make a referral please contact Intake at 565-4848.



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