

Program Element #10: Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Client Services

OHA Program Responsible for Program Element:

Public Health Division/Center for Public Health Practice/HIV, STD and TB Section

1. Description.

Funds provided under this Agreement for this Program Element may only be used in accordance with, and subject to, the requirements and limitations set forth below, to deliver Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Client Services. ORS 433.006 and OAR 333-019-0000 assign responsibility to LPHAs for sexually transmitted disease (STD) investigations and implementation of STD control measures within an LPHA's service area. STD client services may include, but are not limited to, Case finding, Partner Services (i.e., contact tracing), clinical and laboratory services, and education and outreach activities. The funds provided for STD client services under the Agreement for this Program Element may only be used as supplemental funds to support LPHA's STD investigations and control efforts and are not intended to be the sole funding for LPHA's STD client services program.

STDs are a significant health problem in Oregon, with over 22,000 new Cases reported every year. STDs pose a threat to immediate and long-term health and well-being. In addition to increasing a person's risk for acquiring and transmitting HIV infection, STDs can lead to severe reproductive health complications, including poor pregnancy outcomes. Protecting the population from communicable disease by reducing rates of gonorrhea and early syphilis is a public health priority and is included in Healthier Together Oregon, the State Health Improvement Plan.

This Program Element, and all changes to this Program Element are effective the first day of the month noted in the Issue Date section of Exhibit C of the Financial Assistance Award unless otherwise noted in Comments and Footnotes of Exhibit C of the Financial Assistance Award.

2. Definitions Specific to Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Client Services.

- a. Case:** An individual who has been diagnosed by a health care provider, as defined in OAR 333-017-0000, as having a reportable disease, infection, or condition, as described in OAR 333-018-0015, or whose illness meets defining criteria published in OHA's Investigative Guidelines.
- b. Case Investigation:** A process that includes identifying Cases, conducting a Case interview, collecting and reporting Core Variables, and providing Partner Services.
- c. Contact:** Sexual partner of STD Case.
- d. Core Variables:** Variables required by OHA and the CDC cooperative agreement PS19-1901 Strengthening STD Prevention and Control for Health Departments (STD PCHD) that are essential for counting and/or investigating reported Cases accurately and for describing trends in reported Cases in key populations at the local and state level.
- e. Disease Intervention Specialist:** Job title used to identify staff person(s) trained to deliver HIV/STD Partner Services.
- f. In-Kind Resources:** Tangible goods or supplies having a monetary value that is determined by OHA. Examples of such In-Kind Resources include goods such as condoms, lubricant packages, pamphlets, and antibiotics for treating STDs. If the LPHA receives In-Kind Resources under this Agreement in the form of medications for treating STDs, LPHA must use those medications to treat individuals for STDs as outlined in Section 4.a.(4) of this Program Element. In the event of a non-STD related emergency, with notification to the OHA STD program, the LPHA may use these medications to address the emergent situation. If the LPHA self-certifies as a 340B STD clinic site and receives reimbursement for 340B medications from OHA, they shall ensure these medications are used in accordance with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Office of Pharmacy Affairs regulations regarding "340B Drug Pricing Program."
- g. Investigative Guidelines:** OHA reportable disease guidelines, which are incorporated herein by

this reference.

- h. Partner Services:** Partner Services refers to a continuum of clinical evaluation, counseling, diagnostic testing, and treatment designed to increase the number of persons diagnosed with HIV, syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia brought to treatment and reduce transmission among sexual networks. Partner Services includes conducting Case interviews to identify sex and needle-sharing partners, offering to conduct partner notification, providing STD/HIV testing (or referrals) to all contacts, and referring Cases and Contacts to HIV PrEP and additional medical/social services, including treatment.
- i. Priority Gonorrhea Cases:** Gonorrhea Cases requiring Case Investigation, defined as Cases among pregnant or pregnancy-capable individuals, Cases among individuals co-infected with HIV; and rectal gonorrhea Cases.
- j. Priority Syphilis Cases:** Syphilis Cases requiring Case Investigation, defined as Cases staged as primary, secondary, and early non-primary non-secondary syphilis and Cases of any syphilis stage among pregnant or pregnancy-capable individuals.
- k. Reportable STDs:** A Reportable STD refers to diagnosed or suspected Cases of Chancroid, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, and Syphilis, as further described in Division 18 of OAR Chapter 333, and HIV, as further described in ORS Chapter 433.
- l. STD Outbreak:** The occurrence of an increase in Cases of previously targeted priority disease type in excess of what would normally be expected in a defined community, geographical area or season, and, by mutual agreement of the LPHA and OHA, exceeds the expected routine capacity of the LPHA to address.
- m. Technical Assistance:** Services of OHA HIV/STD Prevention staff to support the LPHA’s delivery of STD Client Services, which include providing training and support during STD Case Investigations and STD Outbreak response.

3. Alignment with Modernization Foundational Programs and Foundational Capabilities.

The activities and services that the LPHA has agreed to deliver under this Program Element align with Foundational Programs and Foundational Capabilities and the public health accountability metrics (if applicable), as follows (see [Oregon’s Public Health Modernization Manual](http://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/ABOUT/TASKFORCE/Documents/public_health_modernization_manual.pdf), (http://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/ABOUT/TASKFORCE/Documents/public_health_modernization_manual.pdf):

- a. Foundational Programs and Foundational Capabilities** (As specified in Public Health Modernization Manual)

Program Components	Foundational Program				Foundational Capabilities						
	CD Control	Prevention and health promotion	Environmental health	Access to clinical preventive services	Leadership and organizational competencies	Health equity and cultural responsiveness	Community Partnership Development	Assessment and Epidemiology	Policy & Planning	Communications	Emergency Preparedness and
Program Components	Foundational Program				Foundational Capabilities						
				Population Health Direct services							

Asterisk (*) = Primary foundational program that aligns with each component						X = Foundational capabilities that align with each component					
X = Other applicable foundational programs											
Epidemiological investigations that report, monitor and control Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV.	*						X		X		
STD client services (screening, testing, treatment, prevention).	*			X			X		X		
Condom and lubricant distribution.	*						X	X			

b. The work in this Program Element helps Oregon’s governmental public health system achieve the following Public Health Accountability Metrics:

- Rate of congenital syphilis
- Rate of syphilis (all stages) among people who can become pregnant
- Rate of primary and secondary syphilis

c. The work in this Program Element helps Oregon’s governmental public health system achieve the following Public Health Modernization Process Measures:

- Percent of congenital syphilis cases averted
- Percent of cases interviewed
- Percent completion of CDC core variables
- Percent of early cases treated with appropriate regimen within 14 days

4. Procedural and Operational Requirements.

By accepting and using the Financial Assistance awarded under this Agreement and for this Program Element, LPHA agrees to conduct activities in accordance with the following requirements:

a. Under Sexually Transmitted Disease (PE10-01), LPHA agrees to conduct the following activities, which are not dollar amount funded items:

- (1) Acknowledge and agree that the LPHA bears the primary responsibility, as described in Divisions 17, 18, and 19, of Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) Chapter 333, for identifying potential STD Outbreaks within LPHA’s service area, for preventing the incidence of STDs within LPHA’s service area, and for reporting in a timely manner the incidence of Reportable STDs within LPHA’s service area (as described below in Section 6, Reporting Requirements). LPHA must fulfill the following minimum Case Investigation expectations described below:
 - (a) HIV: Case Investigation should be completed for each HIV Case assigned to the LPHA by the OHA HIV Surveillance Program.
 - (b) Syphilis: At minimum, Case Investigations must be completed for all Priority Syphilis Cases as defined below. Other syphilis Cases must be investigated if there is staffing capacity or there are no Priority Syphilis Cases. OHA may require LPHA to investigate other syphilis Cases if necessitated by local

epidemiology, an STD Outbreak response, or other considerations. LPHA may also independently require Case Investigation for other syphilis Cases. Priority Syphilis Cases include:

- i. All primary, secondary, and early non-primary non-secondary syphilis Cases regardless of sex/gender or age.
 - ii. All Cases among pregnant or pregnancy-capable individuals regardless of stage. Pregnant individuals that don't meet the Case definition may require treatment verification. Refer to the OHA Syphilis Investigative Guidelines.
 - (c) Gonorrhea: At minimum, Case Investigations must be completed for all Priority Gonorrhea Cases as defined below. Other gonorrhea Cases must be investigated if there is staffing capacity or there are no Priority Gonorrhea Cases. OHA may require LPHA to investigate other gonorrhea Cases if necessitated by local epidemiology, an STD Outbreak response, or other considerations. LPHA may also independently require Case Investigation for other gonorrhea Cases. Priority Gonorrhea Cases include:
 - i. All rectal gonorrhea Cases.
 - ii. All Cases among pregnant or pregnancy-capable individuals.
 - iii. All Cases among individuals co-infected with HIV.
 - (d) Chlamydia: Case Investigation for chlamydia Cases is not expected and may be pursued at the discretion of the LPHA.
- (2) Provide or refer client for STD Client Services in response to an individual seeking such services from LPHA. Clinical STD Client Services consist of screening individuals for Reportable STDs and treating Cases and their Contacts.
- (3) Provide STD Client Services including Case finding, treatment (not applicable for HIV) and prevention activities, to the extent that local resources permit, related to HIV, syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia in accordance with:
 - (a) Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR), Chapter 333, Divisions 17, 18, and 19;
 - (b) "OHA Investigative Guidelines for Notifiable Diseases" which can be found at: <http://bit.ly/OR-IG>;
 - (c) Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS), Chapters 431 & 433; and
 - (d) Current "Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Sexually Transmitted Infections Treatment Guidelines," which can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/>.
- (4) OHA may provide, pursuant to this Agreement, In-Kind Resources or Technical Assistance to assist LPHA in delivering STD Client Services. If LPHA receives In-Kind Resources under this Agreement in the form of medications for treating STDs, LPHA may use those medications to treat Cases or Contacts, subject to the following requirements:
 - (a) The medications must be provided at no cost to the individuals receiving treatment.
 - (b) LPHA must perform a monthly medication inventory and maintain a medication log of all medications supplied to LPHA under this Agreement. Specifically, LPHA must log-in and log-out each dose dispensed.

- (c) LPHA must log and document appropriate disposal of medications supplied to LPHA under this Agreement which have expired and thereby, prevent their use.
 - (d) If the LPHA self certifies as a 340B STD clinic site and receives reimbursement for 340B medications from OHA, they must only use “340B medications” to treat individuals for STDs in accordance with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Office of Pharmacy Affairs regulations regarding the 340B Drug Pricing Program.
 - (e) Any 340B costs savings or program income realized as a result of this funding must be utilized in a manner consistent with the goals of the program in which it was authorized under. Therefore, any cost saving as a result of STD funding must be used to increase, enhance and support STD screening and treatment services.
 - (f) If LPHA Subcontracts with another person to provide STD Client Services required under this Program Element, the In-Kind Resources in the form of medications received by LPHA from OHA must be provided, free of charge, to the Subcontractor for the purposes set out in this section and the Subcontractor must comply with all requirements related to such medications unless OHA informs LPHA in writing that the medications cannot be provided to the Subcontractor. The LPHA must document the medications provided to a Subcontractor under this section.
 - (g) If LPHA receives In-Kind Resources under this Agreement in the form of condoms and lubricant, LPHA must distribute those supplies at no cost to individuals infected with an STD and to other individuals who are at risk for STDs. LPHA may not, under any circumstances, sell condoms supplied to LPHA under this Agreement. LPHA shall store condoms in a cool, dry place to prevent damage and shall check expiration date of condoms at least once annually.
 - (h) LPHA staff funded through this Agreement may be utilized to assist with Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) for Tuberculosis Services on a case-by-case basis. LPHA will notify the OHA STD program and obtain approval via email before using STD funding for TB DOT activities.
- (5) OHA will, pending the availability of funds, provide the following items to the LPHA in-kind: STD medications, gift card incentives, condoms, lubricant, rapid HIV test kits, rapid syphilis test kits, and coverage of certain lab fees through the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory.

b. Under Sexually Transmitted Disease (PE10-02), LPHA agrees to conduct the following activities if funding has been approved:

- (1) Train and maintain at least one staff to act as a Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS), as described in its local staffing plan, which has been approved by OHA. OHA shall make available CDC-training to LPHAs needing to train staff as a DIS.
- (2) All PE10-02 funded staff conducting STD case investigation are expected to attend trainings held by the OHA STD Program.
- (3) Use funds for this PE10-02 in accordance with its local program budget, which has been approved by OHA. Modification to the local program budget may only be made with OHA approval.
- (4) Allowable budget expenses are:
 - (a) Personnel costs including fringe for at least one staff acting as a DIS. Personnel costs for additional staff beyond a DIS are allowable (e.g. program manager, epidemiologist, public health nurse) provided the additional staff are supporting

the role and function of a DIS and HIV/STD Case Investigations. Additional staff shall not exceed the FTE dedicated to the DIS position.

- (b) Staff travel costs.
 - (c) Incentives for participation in services (including transportation costs), as approved by OHA. Per CDC requirements, prior to the purchasing of incentives, contractors must submit to OHA for approval: documentation of gift cards or incentive handling procedures, a justification for the purchase, and a description of how incentives will be tracked.
 - i. Individual gift card value cannot exceed \$25.
 - ii. Up to 1% of PE10-02 funds can be utilized for incentive purchases.
 - (d) Supplies and equipment needed to carry out the work of a DIS. Equipment is defined as costing \$5,000 or greater and having a useful life of at least one year.
 - (e) Other allowable expenses including postage, software and other licenses (e.g. Accurint), printing costs for educational/outreach materials, and other expenses approved by the STD Program on a case-by-case basis.
- (5) Unallowable expenses include but are not limited to:
- (a) Medications and screening/testing costs.
 - (b) Harm reduction supplies including syringes.
 - (c) Advertising or marketing.
 - (d) Purchase or maintenance of vehicles.

5. General Revenue and Expense Reporting.

LPHAs receiving funding under this Financial Assistance Award must complete an “Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division Expenditure and Revenue Report” located in Exhibit C of the Agreement. These reports must be submitted to OHA each quarter on the following schedule:

Fiscal Quarter	Due Date
First: July 1 – September 30	October 30
Second: October 1 – December 31	January 30
Third: January 1 – March 31	April 30
Fourth: April 1 – June 30	August 20

6. Reporting Requirements.

- a. LPHA must review laboratory and health care provider Case reports by the end of the calendar week in which initial laboratory or physician report is made in accordance with the standards established pursuant to OAR 333-018-0020. All Cases shall be reported to the OHA HIV/STD/TB (HST) Program via Orpheus.
- b. LPHA must collect and report the Core Variables as outlined in Attachment 1. Required Core Variables are subject to change. Core Variables below that are not required for chlamydia Cases and non-Priority Gonorrhea/Syphilis Cases may be collected at the discretion of the LPHA based on local policy and capacity.
- c. CDC reporting requirements for the DIS Workforce Development Supplement necessitate the submission of staffing plans. As such, LPHAs must submit a staffing plan on a quarterly basis that includes:

- (1) Name and role of current PE-10 funded staff.
- (2) Responsibilities of PE-10 funded staff as they pertain to STD Case Investigation.
- (3) Total FTE dedicated to PE-10 funded activities.
- (4) Vacant PE-10 positions (including role, FTE, and potential timeline for hire).

OHA will provide a template for such reporting and keep all recipients aware of updates to this form.

7. Performance Measures.

- a.** LPHA must operate its program in a manner designed to achieve the following STD performance goals:
 - (1) Treatment with CDC-recommended gonorrhea regimen documented within 14 days of LPHA notification.
 - (2) Pregnancy status documented within 14 days of LPHA notification in 100% of all female syphilis Cases under age 45.
 - (3) Treatment of early syphilis with penicillin G benzathine (Bicillin) documented within 14 days of LPHA notification.
 - (4) Congenital syphilis electronic report form should be completed within 45 days of birth.
 - (5) Contacts should be tested/treated within 30 days before or after the index patient's testing date.

**Attachment 1
Required Core Variables**

STD Core Variables	Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Cases—All	Priority Gonorrhea Cases:	Syphilis Cases—All	Priority Syphilis Cases
Age*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sex*	✓	✓	✓	✓
County*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Specimen collection date*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Diagnosing facility type	✓	✓	✓	✓
Anatomic site of infection*	✓	✓		
Race/ethnicity		✓		✓
Gender identity		✓		✓
Sexual orientation		✓		✓
Sex of sex partners		✓		✓
Pregnancy status		✓	✓	✓
HIV status		✓		✓
Treatment/Date of treatment		✓	✓	✓
Clinical signs/symptoms				✓
Substance use				✓
Incarceration history				✓
* Included on lab report				

HIV Core Variables	Orpheus Tab	Reported via ELR	Entered by OHA	Entered by LPHA
Stage	Home layout-Stage		✓	
Status	Home layout-Status		✓	
DOB/Age*	Home layout-Age	✓	✓	✓
Sex*	Home layout-SOGI	✓	✓	✓
Gender identity	Home layout-SOGI		✓	✓
Sexual orientation	Home layout-SOGI		✓	✓
Race/ethnicity	Home layout-REALD		✓	✓
Pregnancy status	Home layout-Pregnant		✓	✓
Housing at Dx	Home layout-Housing at Dx		✓	✓
Address*	Home layout	✓	✓	✓
Phone/email	Home layout		✓	✓
Diagnosing facility/Provider*	Home layout-Provider	✓	✓	✓
HARS ID HIV Diagnosis AIDS Diagnosis	Home layout		✓	
Specimen collection date*	Labs tab	✓	✓	✓
Clinical signs/symptoms	Clinical tab		✓	✓
Treatment/Date of treatment	Treatment tab		✓	✓
HIV risk history At minimum: sex of partners trans partners sex for drugs/\$ substance use last neg HIV test PrEP use history STD tested	Risks tab		✓	✓
Contacts	Contacts tab			✓
Outbreak Info	Epilinks tab		✓	
* Included on lab report				