

Working with the Partner Services Program to Improve Patient Health



*We are committed
to confidentiality,
discretion, and respect.*

Why we talk with your patients

When a case of HIV or other reportable STD is reported to MDH, we are required by law to follow up with patients to offer an array of free medical, prevention, and psychosocial services, including assistance with partner notification.

The goals of partner services are to:

- Help patients stay healthy
- Help patients understand infection better
- Prevent re-infection and transmission to others

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What your patients can expect from us

Our top priority is protecting the privacy and confidentiality of patients while making sure they have the support they need to inform their partners of a potential exposure.

We do this in one of three ways:

- We tell their partners for them, without disclosing any information
- We can tell their partners with them
- We can help them prepare to disclose directly to their partners

How you can help the process

We are all public health professionals, working toward the same goals. Collaboration is key to better health outcomes.

We need your help to provide the best possible patient care:

- Submit a complete disease report to MDH within one working day of diagnosis.
- Inform your patients about the Partner Services Program. Patients who have learned about partner services prior to being contacted are more likely to utilize our resources.
- Offer Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) when appropriate.

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