Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD’s)
1. Why worry?
2. The STD Infections
   - BACTERIA: Cure possible
     - Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Syphilis
   - VIRUSES: No Cure
     - HIV/AIDS, Herpes, HPV
3. How to prevent STD’s
Why Worry?

• Rates are going **UP**:  
  - Chlamydia  
  - Syphilis  
  - HIV  

• Teens more likely to catch an infection  

• Hispanics & blacks have higher rates
## STDs in Bexar County
### 1st 9 Months 2004 & 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infection</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlamydia</td>
<td>5076</td>
<td>5707</td>
<td>+12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonorrhea</td>
<td>1470</td>
<td>1596</td>
<td>+8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st &amp; 2nd Syphilis</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>+25.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby born with Syphilis</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>+600%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>+10.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV+ Pregnant</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>+140%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are cases of ALL AGES for ALL of Bexar County
Some cases are ages 15-24
Chlamydia & Gonorrhea

- Caused by bacteria
- Spread person-to-person during sexual activity
- Infection can include many parts of the body
  - Cervix, urethra, upper genital tract
- Throat infection possible from oral sex
- Curable with antibiotics
Chlamydia & Gonorrhea in Females

- Usually NO SYMPTOMS—Most females feel FINE
- May have:
  - Vaginal discharge (fluid/mucus)
  - Burning or pain with peeing
  - Lower abdominal pain
Chlamydia & Gonorrhea in FEMALES

- Infection in cervix
- Can go into uterus, tubes, ovaries ("PID")
Chlamydia & Gonorrhea Can Cause:

- Painful Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID)
- Trouble getting pregnant later in life
- Dangerous tubal pregnancy
Chlamydia & Gonorrhea in MALES

- Usually NO SYMPTOMS
- Urethral discharge (drip)
- Burning when peeing
- Testicular pain
Chlamydia & Gonorrhea Can Cause:

- Irritation to urinary tract
- Infection of the tubes and testicles inside the body
- Trouble getting a woman pregnant later in life
Syphilis

- A bacteria spread by sexual contact.
- Stages of disease
  - Primary - painless sore anywhere sex occurred
  - Secondary - body rash
- Many have NO symptoms
- Curable with antibiotics
Syphilis: If not Treated

- Infection continues
  - Even though symptoms go away
- Serious problems years later
  - Heart problems
  - Memory loss
  - Stroke-like problems
- Babies (if Mother infected):
  - Stillborn, Birth defects,
  - Mental retardation

It is much easier to catch HIV/AIDS when infected with Syphilis
HIV/AIDS: Know the Facts

- HIV = a virus
- Spread by blood or body fluids during
  - Sex or Sharing Needles
  - Babies infected at birth
- Usually no symptoms
- Virus keeps growing in the body and attacks the immune system.
- After years, AIDS can develop
HIV/AIDS: What would I feel?

- Most HIV-infected people feel FINE
- May have “flu-like” symptoms soon after getting infected
- Virus keeps growing in the body and attacks the immune system.
- If AIDS develops, may get symptoms of AIDS
- The only way to know for sure if you have HIV is to **GET TESTED**
HIV/AIDS: Living with It

HIV infection can get worse: AIDS
- Body loses ability to fight infection
- Severe weight loss, diarrhea
- Memory Problems
- Pneumonia, other serious infections
- Death

Treatable, but not curable
Many people on medicines live relatively healthy lives
Genital Herpes

- **COMMON**: 1 in 5 adults
- Viral infection of skin/membranes, nerves
- Painful blisters, often come back
- Often no symptoms
- Can transmit even when no ulcers
- No cure, but medicines can help
HPV: Human Papilloma Virus

- Some types cause genital warts
- Others can lead to cancer
  - Cervix (uterus), penis, anus, throat
- Easy to catch: “skin-to-skin”
- VERY COMMON: at least half of sexually active people have had it (but most don’t know it)
HPV: What Happens?

- Most people clear their infection without treatment
- Warts may require creams, chemicals, freezing, surgery (still no cure!)
- Dysplasia & cancer must be detected (Pap smears) & treated--or it can kill!
Many Other STD's

- Hepatitis B*
- Hepatitis C*
- Pubic Lice*
- Chancroid
- LGV
- Trichomonas
- Bacterial Vaginosis (BV)*
- Scabies*
- Molluscum Contagiosum*

*can be spread by other means than sex

May cause:

- Pain
- Blisters
- Bumps
- Sores
- Drip or discharge
- Itching
- Scarring
- More likely to get other infections
What can I do so I don’t get an STD or HIV?

1. ABSTINENCE—do not have sex (vaginal, oral, or anal)
2. Condoms EVERY time
   • Good (but incomplete) protection
3. Few partners
4. Low-risk partners
5. Lifetime relationship with uninfected partner (BOTH faithful)
6. Get checked!
Who Should be Tested?

- Anyone who has had sex should be tested
  - Including oral, anal, and vaginal sex
  - Even if you used condoms
- Anyone who has shared needles or used injection drugs

Project WORTH Clinic
207-8850
Testing is Confidential

- Teens can be tested for STD’s confidentially.
- Parent permission NOT needed, (but discussion with parents always encouraged)
- Information is private.

Project WORTH Clinic
207-8850
Top 10 Questions About STD’s

1. I know I don’t have an STD because we were each other’s “first”, right?
2. Can you get an STD from kissing?
3. Can you get an STD from toilet seats or hot tubs?
4. Can STD’s “come back” after treatment?
5. If I had an STD before, I can’t get pregnant, right?
**Top 10 Questions About STD’s**

6. I know everyone my girlfriend has been with and they are “clean”. Why would I need a test?

7. I have always used a condom, so I don’t need a test, right?

8. If an STD test I got at a clinic showed I was infected, they would have called me, right?

9. When my boyfriend was in juvenile detention, he was tested for “everything”, right?

10. I hear getting a check up is expensive. How much will it cost?