

Expedited Partner Therapy

To protect and promote the public health of individuals in this state, MCL 333.5110 authorizes Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) for patients receiving diagnosis of sexually transmitted infections and whose partners are not likely to seek treatment on their own. MPA continues to work with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to establish recommended guidelines for the implementation of these patient services. Please review the updated guidelines below. If you have additional questions, contact Farah Jalloul, Pharm.D., MPA director of professional development, at Farah@MichiganPharmacists.org.

Summary of EPT Clinical Guidelines for Chlamydia Trachomatis (CT), Neisseria Gonorrhoeae (GC) and Trichomoniasis Vaginalis (TV)

- **Appropriate patients for EPT:** partners of patients with a clinical or laboratory diagnosis of CT, GC and/or TV. Providing EPT without laboratory confirmation may be considered when the provider has a high clinical suspicion of infection and there is concern the patient will be lost to follow-up.
- **Recommended drug regimens:**
 - * Sexual partners of patients with CT only:
Azithromycin 1 gram orally, as a single dose
 - * Sexual partners of patients with GC only:
Cefixime 800 mg orally, as a single dose
 - * Sexual partners of patients with GC, who are co-infected with CT or for whom CT result is not available:
Cefixime 800 mg orally, as a single dose PLUS doxycycline 100 mg BID x 7 days. *Note: If partner is, or might be pregnant, Azithromycin 1 gram orally should be substituted for doxycycline.*
 - * Sexual partners of patients with TV:
Metronidazole 2 grams orally, as a single dose
- **When a prescription is provided, clinicians should issue an individual prescription for each partner.**
 - ⇒ The prescription, if possible, should be made out in the partner's name. If the partner's name is unavailable, the prescription is made to Expedited Partner Therapy. In this instance, use January 1 of the current year for the date-of-birth. Additionally, the pharmacist should gather some identifying information from the person who will be picking up the prescription (such as their initials) to differentiate between multiple EPT prescriptions.
- **Informational materials provided by clinician:** Clear instructions, including contraindications and clinic referrals, should be provided for each partner. More information on EPT can be found at www.michigan.gov/hivstd.
- **Patient counseling:** Advise patient and partner to read informational material very carefully before taking the medication. Stress abstinence for seven days after treatment to decrease likelihood of reinfection and advised them to follow-up with provider for retesting three months after treatment.
- **EPT is NOT recommended for:** cases of suspected child abuse or sexual assault, situations where a patient's safety is in question, for partners with known allergies to antibiotics and for patients who are co-infected with STIs other than CT, GC or TV.