



Health, Housing & Community Services Department
Public Health Officer Unit
Communicable Disease Prevention & Control Program

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Health Advisory

Doxycycline Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (doxy-PEP)
for the Prevention of Bacterial Sexually Transmitted Infections
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Background

On behalf of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) STD Control Branch, the City of Berkeley Communicable Disease Prevention & Control Program would like to inform all health care providers of a new intervention called doxy-PEP used to prevent bacterial sexually transmitted infections (STIs). [Emerging evidence](#) now suggests **doxycycline, when taken as a 200mg oral dose after condomless oral, anal, or vaginal sex, significantly reduces acquisition of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis.** Refer to the [CDPH Dear Colleague Letter](#) for additional details.

Action Requested:

1. **Prescribe doxy-PEP** to men who have sex with men (MSM) or transgender women (TGW) who have had one or more bacterial STI in the past 12 months.
2. **Offer doxy-PEP using shared decision-making** to all non-pregnant individuals at increased risk for bacterial STIs and to those requesting doxy-PEP, even if these individuals have not been previously diagnosed with an STI or have not disclosed their risk status.
3. **Provide comprehensive preventative sexual health counseling and education** to all sexually-active individuals to include HIV/STI screening, doxy-PEP, HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis ([PrEP](#))/HIV post-exposure prophylaxis ([PEP](#)), [vaccinations](#) (e.g. Hepatitis A/B, [Human Papilloma Virus](#), [Mpox](#), [Meningococcal/MenACWY](#)), [expedited partner therapy](#), and/or [contraception](#) where warranted.

Resources:

[CDPH STD Control Branch Homepage](#)
[California STI Screening Recommendations](#)
[California STI Treatment Guidelines](#)
[City of Berkeley Provider Resources](#)