




North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Public Health

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To: Public Health Directors of Nursing, Nursing Supervisors and STD ERRNs

From: Phyllis M. Rocco, RN, BSN, and MPH   
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Date: October 28, 2015

Subject: Management of Pregnant or Potentially Pregnant Women Presenting for STD services by the STD ERRN

This memo is an update to the previous memo issued on March 11, 2015 "Speculum exams on pregnant or potentially pregnant STD clients".

- 1) Local health departments should strive to identify early pregnancy in all women of childbearing age when there is uncertainty re: pregnancy status regardless of what type of service the client presents for and to assure the client is referred to the appropriate reproductive or maternity care whichever is indicated based on the test results. Cost for this service has been and ongoing barrier as we have always promoted that "your charge is your charge re: of whether the client is self-pay, Medicaid, or has commercial insurance". Recently we have learned that there are exceptions to that rule. This is one of those exceptions. Services may be billed to Medicaid without charging the client. The process is simple and can be covered in your billing policy and procedures. We recommend you adopt this change to allow women presenting for STD services who are unsure of their pregnancy status to receive a pregnancy test at no charge should they be self-pay clients. Please contact your LTAT Administrative Consultant for technical assistance to change your billing policy and procedure.
- 2) Additionally, a group of clinicians and nursing professionals have convened to render new best practice recommendations for the management of the pregnant or potentially pregnant woman presenting for STD services. Please review the attached algorithm with your Medical Director and make revisions to your STD Program policies and procedures, and Standing Orders for STD ERRNs to incorporate this new guidance.

Attachment :

"Evaluation of Pregnant of Unknown Pregnancy Status Females in NC Local Health Department STD Clinics Algorithm" / 10.16.15

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