

Ensuring adequate gonorrhea treatment in Marion County

AUTHORS: Tessa Robinson*, Rachel Posnic

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Gonorrhea/Public Health Nurses, Public Health Workers, Health Educators, Health Officers, Providers

ABSTRACT: Background/Purpose: During a focused STI community assessment, Marion County epidemiologists recognized that 18% of all gonorrhea cases were not adequately treated. In the context of increasing gonorrhea rates in Marion County combined with the threat of increasing antibiotic resistance to the last known effective treatment regimen, we felt that it was important to address both concerns using a multidisciplinary approach.

Methods: Education about increased gonorrhea rates and updated treatment regimens were given to both individual providers and clinical practice sites.

Results: Inadequate treatment rates dropped from 17.9% in 2015 to 0.9% in the 2nd Quarter of 2017.

Conclusion: Using both micro and macro-level interventions, along with providing public health context, decreased the percentage of inadequate gonorrhea treatments.

OBJECTIVE(S):

- Discuss one intervention that has been successful in decreasing the percent of inadequate treatment at the local health department level.
- Describe the epidemiology of gonorrhea in Marion County
- Demonstrate the importance of adequate gonorrhea treatment in the context of increased gonorrhea antibiotic-resistance.
- Explain the importance of using a multidisciplinary team to implement macro- and micro-level interventions to address a relevant public health topic.

PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Tessa Robinson, BSN
Public Health Nurse Program Manager
Marion County Health Department
5035885403 | trobinson@co.marion.or.us

CO-PRESENTER(S):

Rachel Posnick | rposnick@co.marion.or.us