Cook County Department of Public Health SECOND QUARTERLY REPORT

To the Cook County Board in their capacity as the Cook County Board of Health

May 2019





Communicable Diseases Programs & Sexually Transmitted Infections Initiatives

May 13, 2019





Communicable Diseases (CD) Unit





The CD Control and Prevention Unit is comprised of Six (6) programs:

- 1. General Communicable Diseases (e.g., gastro-intestinal illnesses, rabies); (4 full time staff/3 currently)
- 2. Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (e.g., measles, mumps, pertussis); (3 full time staff/1 currently)
- 3. Sexually Transmitted Infections/Human Immunodeficiency Virus (STI/HIV) Surveillance and Prevention (e.g., chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, HIV); (16 full-time staff/13 currently)
- 4. Tuberculosis Surveillance and Prevention; (2 full time staff)
- 5. Infection Prevention (e.g., carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae, healthcare-associated infections); (1 full time staff)
- 6. Enhanced Surveillance (e.g., syndromic surveillance); (1 full-time staff)



What does the CD Unit Do?

- Investigates more than 15,000 cases of infectious diseases every year in suburban Cook County
- Prevents and controls outbreaks; contact tracing and monitoring
- Responds to emerging and re-emerging threats
- Continuously collects and monitors syndromic surveillance data
- Is available 24/7/365



General CD Program

- Cover ~60 diseases and conditions
 - Enteric Diseases (like salmonella, norovirus)
 - Respiratory Diseases (like histoplasmosis)
 - Rash/skin Diseases (invasive *S. pneumo*)
 - Vector-borne diseases (like West Nile Virus)
 - Bioterrorism agents (like tularemia, anthrax)



Enhanced Surveillance and Informatics Program

- Oversees Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE) system
 - Emergency Department chief complaint data, basic demographic data
 - 45 hospitals; 5,000 records/day
 - 1,000,000 records/year
- West Nile Virus Surveillance
- Influenza-like Illness Surveillance
- Other areas: Biowatch, rabies post-exposure prophylaxis, social media data mining (foodborne illness)



Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Program

- Cover 15 vaccine-preventable diseases and related conditions, including:
 - Influenza
 - Measles
 - Mumps
 - Pertussis
 - Chickenpox
- Outbreak investigations
- Perinatal Hepatitis B
- Providing guidance to schools and congregate settings



Tuberculosis Surveillance

- Case and contact investigations, data entry, laboratory and other clinical data
- Close collaboration with IDPH, CDC/Division of Global Migration and Quarantine
 - Immigration and TB follow-up
 - "Do Not Board" cases
- Surveillance Reports



Infection Prevention Program

- Investigation of clusters of persons with infectious diseases in out-of-hospital settings
 - Long-term care facilities, nursing homes
 - Schools, daycares
- Point-prevalence surveys
- Established long-term care roundtable
- Candida auris (C. auris), carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)
 - Current concern of spread of the C. auris fungus in long term care facilities (nursing homes and long term acute care hospitals).
 - Can be fatal in immunocompromised, and strains resistant to medications.



STI/HIV Program

- Process more than 11,000 cases per year (staff ensure treatment by having the providers complete a case reporting form via phone, electronic or paper form which are submitted to IDPH)
- Surveillance Operations
 - Case investigations of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis (including congenital syphilis)
 - Training providers on reporting
- Field Operations
 - Risk- and harm-reduction counseling of cases, partner services
 - HIV cases
 - Adolescents with 2 or more STIs in a rolling 12 month window
 - Cases where providers could not be reached



2017 National Data

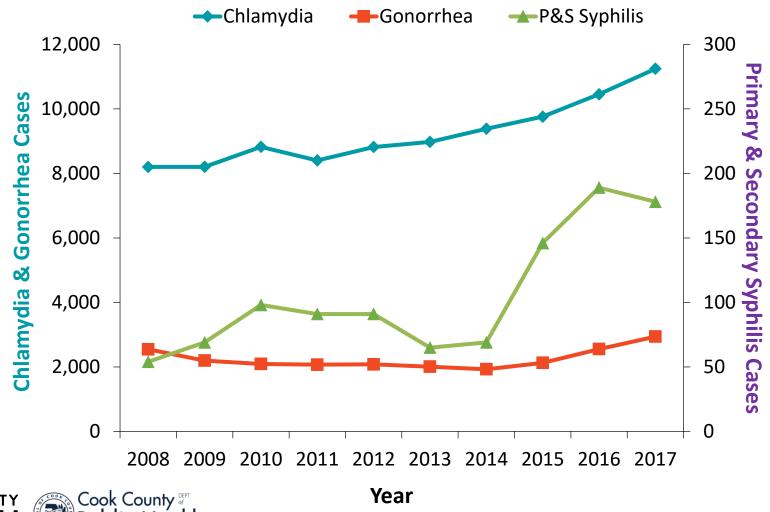
- US in 4th year of sustained STI increases
- Chlamydia: 1.7 million cases in 2017; 45% among 15- to 24-year-old females
- Gonorrhea diagnoses increased 67 percent between 2013 and 2017
- Primary and secondary syphilis increased 76 percent;
 Men who have sex with men (MSM) made up ~70% percent of cases



"We are sliding backward," said Jonathan Mermin, M.D., M.P.H, director of CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention. "It is evident the systems that identify, treat, and ultimately prevent STDs are strained to near-breaking point."



STI Trends: Suburban Cook, 2017





Chlamydia Data – 2017

11,244

Chlamydia cases in suburban Cook County, the highest number ever reported 67%

of ALL chlamydia cases female

10x

Chlamydia rate in Black/African Americans compared to Whites

25%

of ALL chlamydia cases are Black/African American females aged 15-24 years

Gonorrhea Data - 2017

2,941

Gonorrhea cases reported in 2017; this is half or fewer of all the cases occurring in suburban Cook County 58%

of ALL gonorrhea cases are male

22x

Gonorrhea rate in Black/African Americans compared to Whites; Black or African Americans represent 16% of suburban Cook **County pop**

Gonorrhea has developed resistance to every drug used to treat it



STI Initiative





STI Initiatives

- Community/Patient-based approaches
- Infrastructure changes
- Provider-based approaches



Cook County Health HIV/STI Services Coordination/Integration Committee

STI Campaign Activities (in process)

- Ambulatory Community Health Network health centers:
 - Walk in patients for STI screening and treatment at all health centers
 - First visit no charge, including treatment. Then enroll with a primary care provider.
 - Training in process
- Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT)
- Screening of all sexually active adolescents and adults (HEDIS measure for chlamydia)



CCDPH specific activities

Key Audiences

Suburban Cook County

- All youth between 15 and 24; esp. geo hotspots west & south suburban areas, African American and Latino
- Healthcare providers, parents, partners, schools, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations



"Don't Guess, Get a Test" Campaign

- Gonorrhea and chlamydia are focus of this campaign
- Key messages
 - Chlamydia and gonorrhea are most frequently reported; 2/3 of cases are ages 19-24 years old
 - Get tested. (We will only test for GC/Chlamydia.)
 - Get treated. (You and your partners.)
 - Prevent STIs. (Condoms, communication, etc.)
- We will provide information about other diseases (HIV, syphilis, Hepatitis B and C, HPV)



Strategies

- Website (<u>www.dontguessgetatest.com</u>)
- Partners (social media sites and clients/members)
- Print materials (posters, flyers, wallet cards, fact sheets) and swag
 (pop sockets, lip moisturizer, aluminum water bottles, microfiber pouch, sunglasses)
- Earned media (radio or TV PSAs, interviews)
- Mass marketing to geographic hotspots (current)
 - Paid social marketing ads
 - Commercials on Comcast
 - Expressway and community billboards



Community Testing Events

- Forest Park, 3/16/19
- South Suburban College, 4/24/19 & 4/25/19
- Hillcrest Baptist Church and Hillcrest High School, 5/3/19



Infrastructure Changes

- Electronic case reporting
- Intra-facility STI testing reports
 - CCH
 - Loyola
 - Ingalls



STI Reporting Form

- Make electronic
- Pull info from EMR and lab
- Automatic routing to Local and State Health Depts.



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Provider-based Approaches

- Detailed and (non-judgmental!) sexual history on ALL PATIENTS WHO ARE SEXUALLY ACTIVE
- Ensure correct treatment is prescribed and taken by patient
- Expedited Partner Therapy
- Gonorrhea resistance
- LGBTQ cultural competency
- (Syphilis staging treatment)







