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TO: St. Clair County Providers, Hospital ICPs, Emergency Departments, ED Physicians, Walk-in Clinics, OB/GYN

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GONORRHEA NOW AT URGENT-THREAT LEVEL; MYCOPLASMA GENITALIUM CONCERNS ON THE RISE

CDC reports show almost half of all reported gonococcal infections have developed resistance to at least one antibiotic. CDC's concerns grow as future treatment options are limited with climbing gonorrhea infections reported across the nation. Recommendations to treat remain the same: 250mg of intramuscular ceftriaxone AND 1g of oral azithromycin.

The CDC prioritizes *M. genitalium* as an emerging issue due to its high levels of antibiotic resistance and its potential to cause significant morbidity such as Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, infertility and adverse pregnancy outcomes.

Clinical characteristics:

- Possibly asymptomatic
- Persistent/recurrent urethritis
- Persistent/recurrent cervicitis
- Persistent/recurrent PID

Testing:

- NAAT testing of urine, urethral, vaginal, and cervical swabs are the preferred methods for *M. genitalium* detection.
- In the absence of validated tests, *M. genitalium* should be suspected in cases of persistent or recurrent urethritis and may be considered in persistent or recurrent cases of cervicitis and PID.

Treatment recommendation:

- Antibiotics targeting cell-wall biosynthesis (e.g., beta-lactams including penicillins and cephalosporins) are ineffective against this organism.
- Please refer to CDC MMWR Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines, June 5, 2015 report for specific treatment options regarding *M. genitalium*.

Clinicians are asked to report any gonorrhea specimen with **decreased cephalosporin susceptibility** and any **Gonorrhea cephalosporin treatment failure** to St. Clair County Health Department.

To report suspected or diagnosed cases within 24 hours, or if you have questions, call SCCHD at (810) 987-5300 during regular business hours. Refer to the "After Hours Emergency Contact List" or www.scchealth.co for after-hours contact.

The Privacy Rule in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) allows for the disclosure of protected health information, without individual client or patient authorization, to public health authorities, who are legally authorized to receive such reports for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease.