



County of San Diego Monthly STD Report

Issue No. 7: Data through July 31, 2009; Report prepared September 30, 2009.



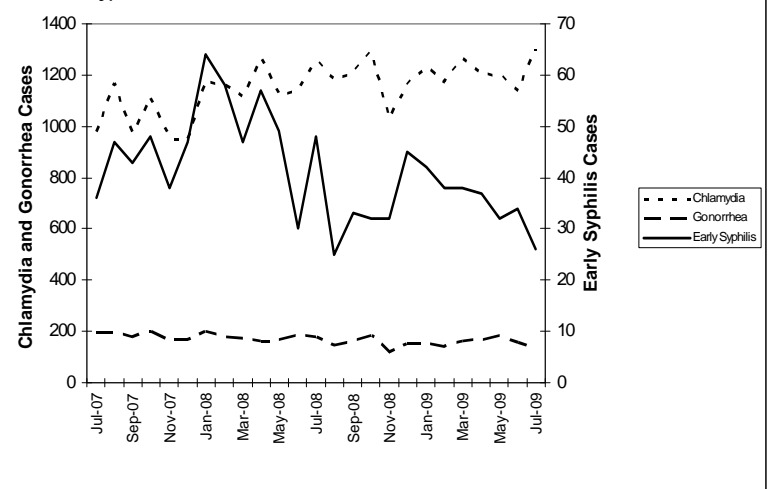
Table. STDs reported among County of San Diego residents, by month (July 2009), and year to date.

	2009		2008	
	July	YTD	July	YTD
Gonorrhea	136	1104	180	1251
Female age ≤25	37	272	39	346
Male rectal gonorrhea	18	129	19	127
Chlamydia	1303	8520	1253	8229
Female age ≤25	679	4606	669	4488
Male rectal chlamydia	24	178	17	142
Early Syphilis (adult total)	26	247	48	353
Primary	6	43	11	63
Secondary	13	116	20	167
Early latent	7	88	17	123
Neurosyphilis*	0	3	0	12
Congenital syphilis	0	0	0	4
Pelvic Inflammatory Disease	8	46	2	43

YTD: Year to Date

*Includes confirmed and probable cases of neurosyphilis among cases of early syphilis only.

Figure 1. STDs reported among County of San Diego residents, by month. Scale for syphilis is different.



Note: All statistics are provisional. Morbidity is based on date of diagnosis. If date of diagnosis is not available for Chlamydia, gonorrhea, and pelvic inflammatory disease, date of specimen collection is used. Totals for past months may change due to delays in reporting from labs and providers.



Figure 2. Monthly visits to all County of San Diego STD clinics, by gender.

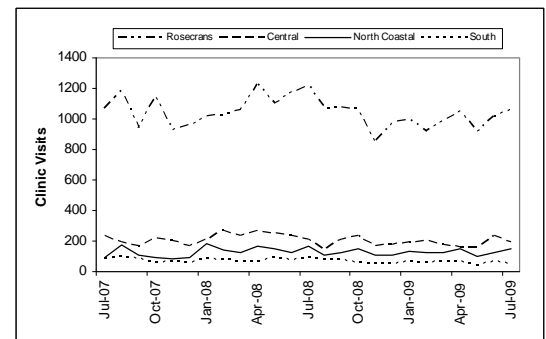


Figure 3. Monthly patient visits to County of San Diego STD clinics, by clinic site. Rosecrans is open five days per week, Central two days per week, and North Coastal and South one day per week.

Caution: Syphilis Treatment with Inappropriate Forms of Penicillin

The County of San Diego (COSD) has learned of three syphilis patients recently treated with inappropriate forms of penicillin. These three cases, which occurred in two separate facilities, underscore the importance of reporting syphilis cases to the COSD and of providing appropriate syphilis treatment.

California law requires syphilis reporting by both healthcare providers and laboratories. After receiving disease reports in those three cases, COSD communicable disease investigators (CDIs) ascertained that treatment had occurred with Bicillin CR®, which contains both benzathine penicillin G and procaine penicillin G, rather than Bicillin LA®, which contains only penicillin G benzathine. Benzathine penicillin G persists in serum for far longer than procaine penicillin G, which is critical for treating *Treponema pallidum*, the slowly reproducing bacterium that causes syphilis. The three patients were subsequently treated with Bicillin LA®.

Penicillin is the CDC-recommended treatment for all stages of syphilis. Bicillin LA® is the only form of penicillin that should be used to treat primary, secondary, or early latent syphilis (in a single dose of 2.4 million units) and late latent syphilis (in 3 doses of 2.4 million units IM each at 1-week intervals). For penicillin-allergic patients who are not pregnant, doxycycline is an alternative treatment. Penicillin-allergic pregnant women with syphilis must be desensitized and treated with penicillin, since it is the only antibiotic that can reliably prevent maternal-fetal transmission. The recommended treatment for neurosyphilis is aqueous crystalline penicillin G.

Providers who do not have access to the appropriate form of penicillin, or who have questions about treatment of syphilis or other STDs, should page the STD Clinical Consultation Pager, at (877) 217-1816. KK

Information about syphilis treatment: http://www.stdhivtraining.org/resource.php?id=15&ret=clinical_resources

Information about reporting diseases to the COSD: <http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us/hhsa/programs/phs/documents/CMR.pdf>

STD Clinical Consultation Pager: (877) 217-1816 (8 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except major holidays)

Information about STD clinic hours: http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/hhsa/programs/phs/hiv_std_hepatitis_branch/std_clinical_services.html

Provider STD Reporting: (619) 692-8520; fax 619-692-8541

STD Clinic: (619) 692-8550; fax (619) 692-8543