



# Center for Gonorrhea Excellence

February 2024

## Welcome!

The Center for Gonorrhea Excellence was established as part of the **Strengthening the U.S. Response to Resistant Gonorrhea (SURRG)** grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Indiana. It has become a centralized repository of information on best practices related to management of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* infections, especially as it relates to the threat of antibiotic resistant gonorrhea (ARGC).



The center also focuses on improving the quality of data pertaining to people diagnosed with gonorrhea, which will improve our understanding of the risk factors associated with acquiring gonorrhea and the healthcare seeking behaviors practiced by patients that have been diagnosed. These activities will be included in another CDC-funded project in Indiana, the **STD Surveillance Network (SSuN)** grant and will enhance our sexually transmitted infection (STI) surveillance activities at the state and local levels.



### CDC releases 2022 STI Surveillance Data report

On January 30th 2024, the CDC unveiled 2022 STI Surveillance data, revealing both concerning and encouraging trends in nationally notifiable STIs in the United States. Syphilis (all stages, including congenital syphilis) have increased by nearly 80% since 2018. Congenital syphilis continues to rise, and certain communities remain disproportionately at risk. Notably, 2022 saw a nearly 9% decrease in Gonorrhea infections. Closer examination of data is expected to illuminate whether this decrease represents a true decline in infections. [\[read more\]](#).

### Innovation in Gonorrhea treatment produces promising new drug

Medical researchers at the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID) and the Global Antibiotic Research & Development Partnership (GARDP) are studying a new safe and effective treatment for Gonorrhea. Zoliflodacin is a novel oral drug that inhibits the replication of bacterial DNA; part of the new spiropyrimidinetrione antibiotic class. Study investigators reported that oral zoliflodacin has produced comparable clinical results to that of the current treatment for Gonorrhea—intramuscular ceftriaxone—and no serious adverse events have been recorded in the phase 3 trial. [\[read more\]](#)

## Information Hub

The following sections provide specific resources available from the center as they pertain to best practices around gonorrhea. If you'd like to see more resources in these hubs, please let us know.

### Provider Resources:



Looking for additional ways to stay up-to-date on current STI topics? The University of Washington National STD Curriculum is known to many in the STI field as a reputable source for information, for new and old practitioners alike. As part of their offerings, the STD Curriculum includes a monthly podcast featuring expert interviews, literature reviews, and more, geared towards medical providers. Episodes are bite size at 15-30 minutes long and can be found on Spotify, Google Podcasts, Apple podcasts and at the following link: [National STD Curriculum Podcast](#)

### Did you know?

February 14th is National Condom Day!

Correct and consistent condom use can substantially lower your risk of contracting an STI — by up to 98%!



### Data & Surveillance: Visualizing CDC STI data



According to the 2022 STI Surveillance report, Indiana ranked 23rd in the US with 12,396 cases of Gonorrhea in 2022 (181.4 cases per 100,000 population). To further exploring HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STI, Tuberculosis and social determinants of health metrics on a national, state, and county level, check out CDC's AtlasPlus platform! Users can browse data and filter results by age, race/ethnicity, geography, and more. AtlasPlus also houses numerous maps and charts useful for visualizing, comparing, and communicating data. Access AtlasPlus [here](#).

### Recent ARGC and Public Health Literature

- [Modelling of doxycycline-based prevention of bacterial sexually transmitted infections...](#)
- [Rebound of Gonorrhea after Lifting of COVID-19 Preventative Measures...](#)
- [Emergence of extensively drug-resistant and multi-drug resistant Shigella flexneri serotype 2a associated with sexual transmission...](#)

### Upcoming Events

- Public Health Day at the Indiana Statehouse North Atrium- February 22nd, 11am-2pm

### State & Federal Resources

- [STI prevention website](#)
- [Antibiotic Gonorrhea Resistance website](#)
- [CDC Division of STD Prevention](#)

### Please join us

## PUBLIC HEALTH DAY

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. EST  
Thursday, Feb. 22  
at the Indiana Statehouse North Atrium

Show your support for public health by wearing blue and gold.

- Featuring:
- A celebration of an investment in public health
  - Partnerships in action
  - Local Health Department Awards
  - Networking and light refreshments



MORE INFO: [healthfirstindiana.in.gov](http://healthfirstindiana.in.gov)



## Editor's Desk



Have news or literature you'd like to see featured?

Have an event coming up you'd like to share?

Contact the newsletter editor to submit for distribution.

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