HIV and Syphilis Dual Diagnoses

Leveraging HIV resources to fight HIV and Syphilis Co-infections

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Kern County Demographics

- **Population:** 865,736
  - 51% Hispanic, 37% White, 5% Black, 4% Asian
  - Median Household Income: $49,026
  - Children Living Below Poverty: 33%
  - High School Education: 73%
  - Bachelors or higher: 15%

- **Geography:** 8,161 sq miles
  - I-5 and 99 Fwy North/South, 58 Fwy East/West
  - Valley floor, Sierra mountains, high desert
  - 4 State prisons, 2 Federal correctional facilities
  - 2 military installations
  - Oil and agriculture
Kern County Health Outcomes

- 7th highest all-cause mortality
- Highest mortality due to diabetes
- 3rd highest mortality due to heart disease
- 7th highest incidence of infant mortality
- Highest rate of births to adolescents
- 2nd highest incidence of chlamydia
- 7th highest incidence of gonorrhea
- 3rd highest incidence of primary and secondary syphilis
- 2nd highest incidence of congenital syphilis
Kern County Syphilis Cases

*2016 cases reported as of 11/30/2016. Projection of full calendar year in red.
Kern County Primary and Secondary Syphilis Cases

*2016 cases reported as of 11/30/2016. Projection of full calendar year in red.
Enhanced Surveillance

- Bi-weekly syphilis case reviews
- Priority focus on Syphilis in women of childbearing age
- Men with syphilis lower priority
Collaboration with HIV

- Early Intervention Services (EIS) Ryan White Funding Core Components:
  - Counseling on HIV/AIDS;
  - HIV testing if status not known
  - Provide information on appropriate therapeutic measures
  - Linkage to care/referrals
  - Clinical evaluation and care for HIV positives
Syphilis Follow up Utilizing EIS

- May 2016 developed a referral process to EIS which included:
  - Track down syphilis positive males
  - Interview for partners
  - Confirm treatment
  - If not treated assist (including transportation)
  - Determine HIV status and last HIV test
  - Test if no HIV test in past 6 months
Syphilis Follow up Utilizing EIS

- If HIV positive determine care status
- Link to medical care/case management
- Refer partners for evaluation for syphilis and HIV
- Educate on risk reduction strategies and HIV PrEP
- Link to HIV PrEP Navigator
Kern County Enhanced Surveillance (n=105)

- 30, 28% Primary
- 28, 27% Secondary
- 24, 23% Early Latent
- 15, 14% Latent
- 8, 8% Stage Unknown

Beginning May 2016
Male Syphilis Cases by Sex Partner (n=104)

- 74, 71% MSM/Bisexual
- 29, 28% Female
- 1, 1% Transgender
HIV Status of Male Cases (n=104)

- 71 (68%) HIV Negative
- 28 (27%) Prior HIV diagnosis
- 5 (5%) New HIV diagnosis

Total cases: 104
HIV+ Male Syphilis Cases by Syphilis Stage (n=33)

- Primary: 9, 27%
- Secondary: 10, 31%
- Early Latent: 6, 18%
- Latent: 5, 15%
- Stage Unknown: 3, 9%
HIV+ Male Syphilis Cases by Reported Sex Partner (n=33)

- Male only: 22, 67%
- Female only: 6, 18%
- Transgender only: 3, 9%
- Combination of male, female, or transgender: 1, 3%
- Unknown: 1, 3%
HIV+ Male Syphilis Cases by Care Status

- 30, 91% In Care
- 3, 9% Linked to Care
HIV+ Male Syphilis Cases by Syphilis Treatment Status

- 29, 88% (Completed Treatment)
- 2, 6% (Treatment in Progress)
- 1, 3% (No Treatment)
- 1, 3% (Unknown Treatment)
HIV- Male Syphilis Cases by Syphilis Treatment Status

- Completed Treatment: 56, 78%
- Treatment in Progress: 4, 5%
- No Treatment: 12, 17%

Legend:
- Blue: Completed Treatment
- Green: Treatment in Progress
- Yellow: No Treatment
Successes with HIV + Cases

- 2 HIV+ patients who were out of care were re-linked to care
- 88% HIV+ patients are fully treated and 3% have treatment in progress
Opportunities with HIV + Cases

• Emphasize importance of staying in care
• Risk reduction education
• Partner Identification and notification for both syphilis and HIV
Successes with HIV - Cases

- 78% HIV- patients are fully treated and 5% have treatment in progress
- Assessment of HIV status and risk reduction education
Opportunities with HIV - Cases

• Partner Identification and notification for both syphilis and HIV
• Discussion on benefits of HIV PrEP and linkage to PrEP Navigator
Challenges

- Substance use: difficult clients to reach and keep in care
- Known HIV+ status not preventing acquisition of new STD
Opportunities

- Increased collaboration with HIV providers
- Increased awareness in the HIV and MSM community
- Strategies to address HIV+ patients who are out of care
- HIV PrEP
Questions??

know your risk

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