

Sexually Transmitted Infections

General Comments

The Contraception, Sterilisation & Abortion Act 1977 amended 1990 states that all young people (including those under the age of 16 years) are entitled to access information and contraception from health professionals without consent from parents or guardians.

Bacterial Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) are most prevalent in the 15-25 year old age group. With repeated or untreated infections the risks of infertility is greatly increased (ESR, 2005). This impacts on the individual, their whanau and the community.

Most commonly there are no symptoms with STI's, so testing for infections is recommended if there is an identified risk and an appropriate referral is offered.

Rationale

To support young people by promoting a life long responsibility among individuals for their sexual health and well-being, this will enable our young people to become healthy adults who have reached their full potential within the education system.

When STI assessment, testing and treatment is provided it reduces the impact of STI's on the individual, their partner and their community.

By providing free Sexual health assessment and referral in a confidential setting by a Registered Nurse on site, at school, appropriate and prompt referral and will improve outcome for the young person.

Actions

Assessment - Document the following history:

Any concerns about the client's sexual health?

Any symptoms?

- Discharge
- Dysuria
- Lower abdominal pain
- Irregular bleeding
- Testicular pain
- Genital pain
- Lumps, blisters or growths
- Any changes that you're concerned about

Any change of partner or unprotected sexual intercourse?

If the answer to any of the above questions is yes, this client needs to be referred for full STI check with appropriate agency.

Follow Up

- As required by the Agency referred to.
- Discuss referral form

Resources

STI handout - to order www.familyplanning.org.nz or Auckland Sexual Health at www.sexfiles.co.nz

Condoms (on MPSO)

Flipchart for assessment questions and referral agencies