Preliminary 2012 San Francisco Data Shows Increases in Reported Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, and Early Syphilis

Preliminary data on reportable STDs show increases for chlamydia, gonorrhea and early syphilis in 2012. Overall reported chlamydia increased from 4,747 to 4,871 cases (2.6%) while male rectal chlamydia increased in 2012 from 961 to 1085 cases for a 12.9% annual increase. Reported gonorrhea cases increased 10.7% from 2,246 in 2011 to 2,486 in 2012. Additionally, rectal gonorrhea among men also increased from 620 cases to 781 cases—a 26.0% increase. After declines in early syphilis seen in 2008, early syphilis continues to increase. In 2012, reported early syphilis increased by 31.5% from 680 cases to 894.

The STD Prevention and Control Section of the San Francisco Department of Public Health continues to recommend that all sexually active men who have sex with men be screened every 3-6 months for syphilis, chlamydia, and gonorrhea. Additionally, all women 25 years old and younger should be screened for chlamydia and gonorrhea annually. All patients with an STD should be treated promptly and encouraged to return for re-screening in 3 months. STD screening is available at San Francisco City Clinic, through community clinics, and private providers. More comprehensive data will be available with the publication of the 2012 Annual Summary later this year. The 2011 Annual Summary can be found at http://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/reports/default.asp#annlSTD.