

# ZANZIBAR REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT



## MINISTRY OF HEALTH

### Zanzibar Integrated HIV, Tuberculosis and Leprosy Programme

## SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED AND REPRODUCTIVE TRACT INFECTIONS

### A MANUAL FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
ARS	Anorectal Syndrome
ARV	Anti-Retroviral Drug
BCC	Behavioral Change Communication
BV	Bacteria vaginosis
CT	Chlamydia Trachomatis
CSF	Cerebralspinal Fluid
CTC	Care and Treatment Clinic
DDM	District Data Manager
DHMT	District Health Management Team
EC	Emergency Contraception
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FP	Family Planning
FSW	Female Sex Worker
GRN	Goods Received Note
GUD	Genital Ulcer Disease
HIMS	Health Information Management System
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
H/W	Health Worker
HCP	Health Care Provider
HPV	Human Papilloma Virus
HTA	High Transmission Areas
IB	Inguino Bubo
IDC	Infectious Disease Centre
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IUCD	Intrauterine Contraceptive Device
LGV	Lymphogranuloma venereum
MOH	Ministry of Health
MSD	Medical Store Department
MSM	Men who have sex with other men
NC	Neonatal Conjunctivitis
NG	Neisserial gonorrhoeae

PAP	Papanicolaou
PEP	Post Exposure Prophylaxis
PID	Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
PITC	Provider Initiated Testing and Counseling
PMTCT	Prevention Mother to Child Transmission
PSS	Painful Scrotal Swelling
PWID	People Who Inject Drugs
RHS	Reproductive Health Services
RTI	Reproductive Tract Infection
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
TC	Trichomonas vaginalis
TCA	Trichloacetic acid
UDS	Urethral Discharge Syndrome
UNAIDS	The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
VDS	Vaginal Discharge Syndrome
VCT	Voluntary Counseling and Testing
WHO	World Health Organization
ZIHTLP	Zanzibar Integrated HIV, Tuberculosis, and Leprosy Programme

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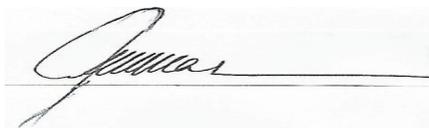
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Dr. Juma Malik Akili

Principal Secretary,

Ministry of Health, Zanzibar

## FOREWORD

The slow progress made in the control of Sexually Transmitted Infections in Zanzibar and their high burden in particular populations necessitated the review of the national guideline for management. Young people and the key population including men who have sex with men, female sex workers, and people who use illicit drugs, harbor the largest share of the burden of such ailments. In 2014, 35% of the STI cases in Zanzibar were within the age of 14 – 25 years. In Pemba, HIV prevalence was 8.8% among people who inject drugs (PWIDs), 5.0% among men who have sex with men (MSM), and 18.8% among female sex workers (FSWs) in 2012. In Unguja, such prevalence in 2012 were 11.3% among PWID; 2.6 among MSM; and 19.3% among FSWs. Syphilis was prevalent in 0.8% of the PWID and 3.1% among sampled FSWs in Unguja in 2012 according to the indicator behavior survey in 2014. Such unprecedented burdens that are concentrated among young people and the key populations call for renewed efforts to prevent escalation and scale back the burden in Zanzibar.

The newly developed manual for service providers incorporates the new evidence to improve preventive, curative, and promotive efforts by the ministry. This manual will assist health workers of all cadres and other stakeholders to gain the necessary knowledge, skills, and ability to address STIs challenges in Zanzibar.

This work involved a consultative process that involved a number of experts in the Ministry of Health, Zanzibar Integrated HIV, Tuberculosis and Leprosy Program, various international and national organizations, different groups, and experts from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences. It is my hope that, this manual for service providers will be useful in the process of controlling STIs and RTIs in Zanzibar. It is my hope that, this manual will be used by all health workers and partners in care and management of STIs/RTIs in Zanzibar to equip them with necessary skills and knowledge that will ultimately address the burden of such diseases, increase prevention efforts and in the end, improve health and wellbeing of all people in Zanzibar.



Hon. Mahamoud Thabit Kombo

Minister for Health

The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar

# INTRODUCTION

This manual for service providers is intended to be one of the tools for enabling trainees to acquire appropriate knowledge and skills in the management of STIs/RTIs using the Aetiological and Syndromic Approaches.

Lack of National Guidelines for the management of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and reproductive tract infections (RTIs) in Zanzibar and the high burden of these infections among young people and key populations necessitated the need to develop these guidelines.

## *Rationale for the manual for service providers*

The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Zanzibar has recently developed the guidelines for the management of STIs and RTIs. The guidelines are adapted from current World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines on the management of STIs and RTIs. The guidelines are also comprehensive including all populations particularly key populations. Everyone including key populations should not be left behind in the activities for the control of STIs and RTIs.

## *Aim and Purpose of the manual for service providers*

The aim of this manual is to enable service providers to implement effectively and efficiently the new comprehensive package of STI/RTI management.

The purpose is to standardize the management of STIs/RTIs in the country.

- The trainers will use this manual in orienting themselves before, during, and after conducting the training.
- The trainees will use it as a reference material during and after training in the management of STIs/RTIs.
- The supervisor will use it as a standard tool to measure the extent of success of implementation.
- Service providers will use it as an immediate resource/reference material in the clinical settings.

## *Goal and Objectives of the manual for service providers*

The goal is to enable the service providers to plan, conduct, monitor and evaluate the STI/RTI services in accordance with National STIs/RTIs guidelines.

## *General Objectives*

The STIs/RTIs service providers should be able to;

- Establish and maintain positive inter-personal relationship with clients in need of STI/RTI services
- Provide conducive environment for STI/RTI management
- Manage clients with STIs/RTIs using aetiological and syndromic management approaches
- Create user-friendly environment where by marginalized groups including key populations can seek for STI/RTI information and services
- Integrate STI/RTI services within the general health care services.
- Mobilize the community for STI/RTI prevention and behavior change
- Recognize the strategies of the national STI/RTI and HIV/AIDS programme
- Integrate STIs/RTIs into regular reproductive health services

- Manage effectively logistics for medicines, laboratory reagents and STI/RTI related supplies
- Manage effectively STI/RTI complications related to pregnancy, abortion and the postpartum period and post sexual violence.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS OF THE STI/RTI SERVICE PROVIDER**

The STI/RTI Service Provider will do the following:

### **RESPONSIBILITY 1:**

Establish and maintain interpersonal communication ensuring positive relationship with the Client, Community and Co-workers.

### **TASKS:**

1. Establish and maintain provider/provider and client/provider relationship.
2. Establish and maintain services that promote the client's and Community's rights during service delivery.

### **RESPONSIBILITY 2:**

Promoting STI/RTI education to individuals, couples, groups and community.

### **TASKS:**

1. Planning, conducting and evaluation STI/RTI educational session for target groups specified in the national guidelines for management of STI/RTI service delivery and training.

### **The task involves the following:**

- Promoting healthcare seeking behavior in women and men.
- Promoting sexual reproductive health among adolescents, youths and key populations.
- Conducting sessions on prevention of STIs/RTIs.
- Promoting antepartum, Partum and post-partum care.

### **RESPONSIBILITY 3:**

Counseling individuals, couples and groups for and during STI/RTI Services

### **TASKS:**

1. Using counseling skills to:
  - Prevent re-infection and spread to others
  - Ensure compliance to treatment.
  - Identify and notify sexual contacts.
  - Promote safer sex practices including condom use among groups at high risk i.e. adolescents, youth, commercial sex workers and other key populations
2. Counsel and refer cases that cannot be managed at the level.

3. Counsel and manages survivors of rape.

**RESPONSIBILITY 4: Managing STI/RTI Clients**

**TASKS**

1. Taking proper history.
2. Performing thorough physical examination.
3. Making accurate decision
4. Taking proper action.
5. Conduct follow-up to determine drug compliance, treatment outcome and partner notification.
6. In case of treatment failure, refer for further appropriate management. e.g. change to third line treatment, laboratory investigation or upper level of service delivery.
7. Establish linkage of STI/RTI Management of adolescents and youths with other Reproductive Health Services (RHS).
8. Offer PITC to a client.
9. Providing health education on STIs/RTIs using Behavioral Change Communication (BCC), IEC materials.
10. Promoting and teaching on proper condom use and negotiation.

**RESPONSIBILITY 5:**

Organizing the STI/RTI clinic to offer quality, accessible and equitable services.

**TASKS**

1. Establish conducive environment for youth friendly services.
2. Organize the STI/RTI clinic in a way that enhances acceptance and continuity of the services.
3. Ensure availability of medicines, medical supplies and equipment for use in the STIs/RTIs at the facility.
4. Preventing nosocomial infections in health service providers and clients.
5. Maintaining records according to the Health Management Information System (HMIS)
6. Compiling and using data for the quality of STI/RTI service.

**RESPONSIBILITY 6:**

Mobilizing Individuals, Couples, Groups and community for STI/RTI Prevention and Behavior Change.

**TASKS**

1. Conducting advocacy activities.
2. Promote health-seeking behavior among the community.
3. Screen pregnant women for STIs/RTIs and HIV/AIDS.
4. Promote relevant IEC materials and utilize them appropriately.
5. Advocate for Voluntary Counseling and Testing for HIV/AIDS
6. Promote the use of condoms and other services among individuals, couples, youth and adolescents.

**RESPONSIBILITY 7:**

Recognize the STI/RTI management strategies

## **TASKS**

1. Apply National STI/RTI and HIV/AIDS Prevention strategies during service provision.
2. Adhere to National STI/RTI treatment guidelines.
3. Offer PITC
4. Sensitize the community to actively participate in home-based care
5. Participate in the implementation of STI/RTI research activities.

## **RESPONSIBILITY 8:**

Manage effectively logistics for medicine, laboratory reagents and other related supplies

## **TASKS**

1. Establish monthly requirements
2. Order medicine and other medical supplies and equipment for STIs/RTIs inventory/records according to Health Management Information System (HMIS). timely maintain

# Chapter 1: Introduction to STIs/RTIs

## The Importance of STI/RTI on public health

Sexually Transmitted Infections and Reproductive Tract Infections (STIs/RTIs) remain a public health problem of major significance in many countries of the world. The burden is particularly high in sub-Saharan African countries, with an increasing rate of new infections especially of HIV/AIDS. Similar trend is evident for STIs/RTIs. WHO estimates that over 357 million episodes of curable and many more incurable STIs occur each year worldwide. In Zanzibar, the magnitude of STIs/RTIs is low in the general population. However, the infections are concentrated to the specific population segments. In Pemba, HIV prevalence was 8.8% among PWID, 5.0% among MSM, and 18.8% among FSWs in 2012. In Unguja, such prevalence was 11.3% among PWID, 2.6% among MSM, and 19.3% among FSWs in 2012. Such key populations were also reported to have higher prevalence of STIs. For example, syphilis was prevalent in 0.8% of the PWID and 3.1% among sampled FSWs in Unguja in 2012.

Failure to diagnose and treat STIs/RTIs at an early stage may result in serious complications and consequences including infertility, foetal wastage, ectopic pregnancy, anogenital cancer, premature delivery, as well as neonatal and infant infections. Proper management of STIs/RTIs also reduces maternal and infant mortality. STIs are also known to enhance the spread of HIV infection in communities. STIs/RTIs also have negative socio-economic impact that include an increase in the cost for health service, relationship/marriage problems etc.

To reduce the burden of STIs/RTIs, efforts are needed in both healthcare facilities and in the community. Effective prevention and case management practiced by healthcare providers can reduce the STI/RTI burden in several ways. For example, effective treatment reduces STI transmission in the community; safe and appropriate clinical procedures mean fewer iatrogenic infections. Community education and outreach are important to promote prevention of infection and use of healthcare services and thus further reducing disease transmission within the community.

## Information on STIs/RTIs

### Definitions

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are infections that are spread primarily through person-to-person sexual contact. Of the eight most common STIs, four are currently curable. They are chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis, and trichomoniasis. The other four are viral infections and are incurable: hepatitis B, herpes, HIV, and human papillomavirus (HPV). Symptoms or disease due to the incurable viral infections can be reduced or modified through effective treatment.

Reproductive Tract Infections (RTIs) affect the genital tract. Both women and men are at risk of such infections. Some RTIs for example syphilis and gonorrhoea overlap with the STIs group as they are also sexually transmitted--many are not. Other modes of transmission for RTIs include infections from endogenous organisms and iatrogenically through medical procedures.

### Factors that facilitate STI/RTI transmission in the community

There are many factors which facilitate STI/RTI transmission in the community including:

- Risky sexual behavior such as: having multiple partners or not practicing safe sex
- Socio-economic factors such as transactional sex or lack of information on STIs/RTIs
- Cultural factors such as societal rituals of cleansing or widow inheritance.

- Biologically, adolescents/youth are at most risk because of immature sexual organs and females are more likely to be infected compared to men because of their anatomical makeup.
- War and political instability in the country create mobility and migration that adversely influence changes in sexual behavior
- Iatrogenic infections are more common where there are many STIs, and where healthcare providers do not have the training or supplies to perform procedures safely, Post-partum and post-abortion infections are more common where safe services and follow-up care are not available.
- Endogenous yeast infection and bacterial vaginosis are common worldwide and are influenced by environmental, hygienic, hormonal and other factors.

### **Relationship between STI/RTI and HIV/AIDS**

The reason that STI/RTI and HIV/AIDS are related is that these diseases have many things in common. For example,

- HIV and STIs/RTIs share the same major modes of transmission route such as unprotected penetrative sex and mother to child transmission
- The same risk behavior predisposes to infection of HIV and STIs/RTIs
- Having STIs/RTIs increases the risk of acquiring and transmitting HIV infection.
- Effective treatment of STIs/RTIs decreases the amount of HIV in the genital secretions and makes HIV transmission less likely.
- Being HIV infected can change the clinical presentation and treatment outcome of the STIs/RTIs

### **How do people acquire STIs/RTIs?**

There are basically five modes of STI/RTI transmission

- Endogenous infection: causative organisms are found in the vagina. It is usually not transmitted from person to person but immune-compromising factors can cause overgrowth which may lead to symptoms. For example, yeast infection, bacterial vaginosis.
- Sexually transmitted infections: usually caused by unprotected sexual contact with infected person. For example, gonorrhoea, Chlamydia, syphilis, HIV infection, scabies, trichomoniasis, genital warts
- Iatrogenic infections: causing organisms may be found inside or outside the body such as STI in the vagina or contaminated medical procedures or instruments. For example, Pelvic inflammatory disease following abortion or trans-cervical procedures.
- Vertical transmission: from mother to child during pregnancy e.g., congenital syphilis, HIV infection, during delivery or breast feeding. e.g., Neonatal conjunctivitis (NC), HIV infection.
- Through blood transfusion and/or its products in this case organisms are found in the blood or blood products. Any contact with infected blood or blood products may cause the spread of disease. For example, HIV infection, syphilis, hepatitis B and hepatitis C.

## **What is the clinical presentation of STIs/RTIs?**

Some STIs/RTIs are asymptomatic while others are symptomatic.

Common symptoms of STIs/RTIs are painful micturition, abnormal vaginal discharge, urethral discharge, genital ulcers, genital itching, swelling of inguinal lymph nodes, scrotal swelling, lower abdominal pain, and pain during sexual act.

It is important to note here that a number of individuals can be infected without symptoms. This applies to both women and men.

It is important to note that infected but asymptomatic individuals can also infect their sexual partner(s).

## **Can STIs/RTIs be prevented?**

Most of STIs/RTIs and their complications are preventable. Communities with good access to effective prevention and treatment services have lower rates of STI/RTI.

Common approaches within reproductive health services include: abstinence, fidelity, correct and consistent use of condom, early treatment, medicine compliance, screening and treating of asymptomatic cases.

## **Important information on HIV/AIDS Definitions**

Many people are confused about the difference between HIV and AIDS. Therefore, it is very important that as a service provider you are able to explain the difference to your patients.

HIV infection is the state of being infected by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) type 1 or 2 without symptoms and signs whereas AIDS is the state of being HIV infected with presentation of symptoms and signs.

To be infected with HIV virus means that:

- You have virus in your body
- You can always pass the virus to others
- You can look healthy and feel well until you become sick with AIDS and that might take years

## **How do people acquire HIV?**

Mode of transmission of HIV infection is through unprotected penetrative sexual intercourse, vertical transmission (mother to child), contact with infected blood and/or its products, donated organs or bone grafts and tissues, and contaminated injecting equipment. Transmission of HIV through body fluids other than blood and genital secretions such as CSF (cerebrospinal fluid), pleural fluid, amniotic fluids etc. are also possible. However, unless blood is visibly present, saliva, sputum, sweat, tears, feces, nasal secretions, urine, and vomitus carry a very low risk of transmission of HIV.

## **Pathogenesis of HIV/AIDS**

Pathogenesis of HIV/AIDS follows a pattern where HIV starts by infecting lymphocytes called T-helper lymphocytes or CD4+ cells (CD4+ cells assist in maintaining normal body immunity). Multiplication of HIV in CD4+ cells kills them. When many CD4+ are killed the body immunity decreases. Decreased body immunity results in being vulnerable to opportunistic infections and cancers (AIDS).

## **What is the clinical presentation of HIV/AIDS?**

Most of the symptoms and signs of HIV/AIDS encountered are due to opportunistic infections. You as a service provider you need to know the most common symptoms and signs, and stages of the progression of HIV infection. It will help you to guide and advise your patient effectively. Symptoms and signs such as fever, cough of more than one month duration and usually persistent, dysphagia, odynophagia, weight loss, diarrhea, generalized lymphadenopathy, skin rash, generalized pruritis, altered mental status or on-and-off severe headaches are common. Other possible causes of the above symptoms and signs should be ruled out.

### **What are the available tools for Diagnosis of HIV/AIDS?**

The diagnosis of HIV infection is mainly based on laboratory tests. The tests that are currently available in Tanzania include various forms of ELISA, western blot and rapid tests such as Determine, SD-Bioline and Unigold.

### **Can HIV/AIDS be prevented?**

Prevention and control measures of HIV/AIDS include abstinence, fidelity, correct and consistent condom use, voluntary counseling and testing, PITC, screening of blood before transfusion, prevention of mother to child transmission, proper management and control of STIs/RTIs and adhering to standard precautions of infection control.

## **National HIV/AIDS Policy And STI/RTI Guidelines And Strategies**

### **National HIV/AIDS Policy**

The national policy on HIV/AIDS which was launched in October 2001, puts emphasis on prevention of the transmission of HIV/AIDS. Among the specific objectives of the policy are:

- Creating and sustaining an increased awareness of HIV/AIDS through
- Targeted advocacy, information, education and communication for behavior change
- Promoting safer sex practices e.g. use of condoms, non-penetrative sex, faithfulness to partners and abstinence.
- Prevention and management of STIs/RTIs particularly early diagnosis, treatment, prevention and control because of their role in facilitating HIV/AIDS transmission.
- Prevention of mother to child transmission

### **National STI/RTI Guidelines**

There are a number of guidelines (national and international) developed or adapted by the Ministry of Health, Zanzibar to guide the implementation of STI/RTI strategies. Among the current guidelines are:

- Ministry of Health (MOH), Zanzibar revolutionary government (2016), National guidelines for management of sexually transmitted and reproductive tract infections.
- WHO (2016) Guidelines for the Treatment of Chlamydia trachomatis
- WHO (2016) Guidelines for the Treatment of Treponema pallidum (syphilis)
- WHO (2011) Management of sexually transmitted infections, Regional guidelines
- WHO (2003) Guidelines for the management of sexually transmitted infections

## STI/RTI intervention strategies

For effective management and control of STI/RTI interventions national strategies are directed towards:

- Training of service providers
- Effective primary prevention of STIs/RTIs
- Promotion of appropriate STI/RTI care seeking behavior
- Effective case management
- Contact management
- Routine prevention of Neonatal conjunctivitis
- Availability and affordability of drugs
- STI/RTI case finding and screening
- Interventions targeting Key Populations
- Monitoring and evaluation

### Your role as a service provider in reducing the burden of STIs/RTIs

There are a number of challenges to providing effective STI/RTI services to the people who need them. A significant proportion of people with STIs/RTIs do not seek treatment because they are asymptomatic or have mild symptoms. Others who have symptoms may prefer to treat themselves or seek treatment at pharmacies or from traditional healers. Even those who come to a clinic may not be properly diagnosed and treated. In the end, only a small proportion of people with STIs/RTIs may be cured and avoid re-infection. Service providers have a major role in responding to these challenges.

Many of these challenges can be addressed by making the most of opportunities to promote prevention, improve healthcare-seeking behavior, and detect and manage existing infections. Other roles of service providers have been outlined in the National Guideline for management of STIs/RTIs chapter one page 24 - 25.

## Chapter 2: Detection (Diagnosis) of STIs/RTIs

### General screening for STIs/RTIs

A significant proportion of women and men with STIs/RTIs, do not have symptoms. Even those with mild symptoms may not complain when they come for other care services. Asymptomatic infections may equally cause complications as symptomatic ones.

It is the role of the service provider to utilize every opportunity to screen patients/clients for STIs/RTIs both clinically and/or by laboratory investigation when they come for other services.

### What you need to remember on detection of STIs/RTIs

Detecting asymptomatic infection is important to an individual as well as community since it interrupts transmission.

- Healthcare provider should have adequate skills and knowledge on common signs and symptoms of STIs/RTIs.
- All STI/RTI patients should be encouraged to take an HIV test.
- Provider Initiated Testing and Counseling should be encouraged
- Symptom suspicion and early care seeking behavior should be promoted.
- Screening clients, who come for Reproductive Health Services such as pregnant women, is an effective strategy for prevention of STIs/RTIs such as congenital syphilis.
- Speculum examination is essential and should be performed carefully to detect any sign and Papanicolaou smear should be taken to detect early cervical cancer.

### What are the challenges?

There are several barriers in the detection and control of STIs/RTIs in a community. Firstly, not all who are infected seek for care and some are asymptomatic. Secondly, those who seek for care are not all properly managed or get cured and finally, partner notification and management is another snag. Barrier cascades and some strategies for detecting STIs/RTIs in patients who come for other services have been summarized in figure 2.1 and tables 2.1 and 2.2 of the National Guidelines for management of STIs/RTIs chapter 2 on page 26 -28.

### What you need to remember on challenges

It is important to remember that some issues may come up when screening or presumptively treating for STIs/RTIs.

- Clients who come to clinic or health facility for other reasons may not be prepared to hear that they may have STI/RTI
- These clients may be more upset if they are told that they have to inform their sexual partners
- Such situations must be handled carefully to avoid losing patients' trust and damaging the reputation of the facility

- The fact that no screening test is 100% accurate clients should be given a clear explanation and the possibility of error
- All the time health providers should avoid labeling problems as sexually transmitted when it is uncertain because of the stigma.

### **Screening for specific STIs/RTIs and HIV infections**

Recommendations for screening in specific STIs/RTIs and HIV including indications for screening and the available tools have been adequately discussed in the National Guidelines for management of STIs/RTIs chapter 2 on pages 28 to 34.

### **Screening of STIs/RTIs among the key populations**

Key populations comprise a group of individuals who are important in the fight against STIs/RTIs including HIV. Due to an alarming high prevalence of HIV and other STIs/RTIs among these individuals, diagnosis of such infections among them should be an important undertaking. To effect this, when attending a client from such groups for other health needs:

- Screening of STIs/RTIs should be offered routinely as part of the comprehensive care for STIs/RTIs including HIV.
- Take note that, in some groups, infection sites can be different from the rest of population depending on sexual practices they practice. Such sites may include the anus, oral cavity, fingers, and the pharynx.
- Find out the level of knowledge the client has on different STIs/RTIs aspects including but not limited to types of STIs/RTIs, signs and symptoms of different STIs/RTIs, treatment options, opportunities for treatment, opportunities for HIV counseling and testing, risk factors, and prevention mechanisms.
- Establish the sexual status of the client with respect to number of current sexual partners, types of sex involved, and types of other risky behaviors the client is involved.
- Inquire about history and/or current symptoms of STIs/RTIs and whether received treatment of the most recent episode
- Establish condom use status of the client. In this regards, enquire about intimate partner violence if present.
- For female clients from these groups, provide cervical cancer screening program as per cervical cancer screening program guideline.
- Help the client plan for prevention mechanisms.

One of the strategies in STI/RTI/HIV screening is adoption of Provider Initiated Testing and Counseling (PITC). PITC components aim at providing correct information, encouraging every client to be tested, assisting a decision making and testing for any client who comes for other health services.

### **What a service providers should observe**

#### **Standard precautions during screening**

Laboratory screening involves handling of blood and other body fluids. Standard precautions should be observed at all times when dealing with invasive procedures such as drawing blood. All body fluids should be considered infectious.

Precautions are aimed at protecting the service provider and client. They also aim at protecting against nosocomial infections.

## **Standard precautions include:**

### **Safe handling of specimen**

- Explain to the client what is to be done to gain cooperation and trust of client
- Disposable specimen collecting materials should be reused
- Avoid needle stick injuries
- Cap infected fluids before centrifuging
- Disinfection should be carried out using appropriate disinfectants such as 0.5% hypochlorite
- Antiseptic recommended for skin decontamination is 70% alcohol (methanol)
- All disposable items should be burnt or incinerated (where possible)

### **Laboratory testing for Syphilis screening**

There are two major categories of serological testing for syphilis namely; Non-Treponemal and Treponemal tests. Procedures for laboratory testing are discussed in National Guidelines for Management of STI/RTI and the National guideline chapter 3 on page 18 and Trainers Guide on PITC.

### **Remember that:**

- Indications for screening in some conditions such as cervical cancer screening depend on availability of resources
- Pre-testing counseling should always be done by a well-trained service provider
- All laboratory investigations should be done by a trained health personnel
- RPR tests may remain positive for about six months to one year even after successful treatment, thus results must always be recorded
- Treponemal specific tests remain positive for the rest of one's life
- Serum/plasma should be tested on the same day and haemolysed blood should never be used
- Clients should preferably be informed about the test results on the same day.
- For positive syphilis result treatments should be given on the same day

### **HIV counseling and testing approaches**

- Provider-Initiated HIV testing and Counseling (PITC)  
Healthcare practitioners will have the role of initiating HIV testing and counseling for all patients attending health care facilities in order to make specific clinical decisions that require knowledge of the patient's HIV status
- Client-Initiated Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT)  
This is a client-initiated Voluntary HIV Counseling and Testing
- Community-Based HIV Testing and Counseling

This service has multiple approaches such as home-based testing, mobile outreach (including in working places, schools etc) and multi-disease campaigns. It should be implemented in addition of PITC.

- **Couple HIV Testing and Counseling (CHTC)**  
It is for people who are or are planning to be in a sexual relationship. Services should be offered to married and cohabiting couples, premarital couples, polygamous unions and any other partnerships.
- **Mandatory HIV screening**  
This refers to routine screening for HIV and other bloodborne viruses of all blood for blood transfusion or transfer of bodily fluids or parts
- **HIV Testing in medical research and surveillance**  
In Tanzania this is performed according to specific guidelines and regulations approved by the appropriate scientific and review boards.

### **PITC concepts**

PITC refers to HIV testing and counseling which is recommended by health care providers to persons attending health care facilities as a standard component of medical care. The major purpose of such testing and counseling is to enable specific clinical decisions to be made and/or specific medical services to be offered that will not be possible without knowledge of the person's HIV status.

PITC also aims to identify unrecognized or unsuspected HIV infection in persons attending health facilities. Health care providers may therefore recommend HIV testing and counseling to patients in some settings even if they do not have obvious HIV-related symptoms or signs. Such patients may nevertheless have HIV and may benefit from knowing their HIV-positive status in order to receive specific preventive and/or therapeutic services. In such circumstances HIV testing and counseling is recommended by the health care provider as part of a package of services provided to all patients during all clinical interactions in a health facility.

It is emphasized that, the principles of informed consent, counseling, and confidentiality must be observed. Persons retain the right to decline the HIV test without being denied any services to which they are entitled to at the health facility.

### **Rationale for PITC**

- Integrating HIV testing into service provision for all patients to normalize as other chronic disease.
- Majority of people in Tanzania do not know their status. PITC increases the individual's access to HIV testing hence number of individuals that know their status.
- People tend to prefer being tested within the context of a regular health service visit. A visit to a specialized facility just for an HIV test can be time-consuming, inconvenient and stigmatizing.
- PITC takes less time if it focuses more on post-test counseling and referral to appropriate services.

- Rates of HIV infection are higher among TB and other patients, with signs and symptoms of HIV and AIDS, than among the general population. It is therefore important to test these groups of patients for HIV.

### Importance of PITC in Tanzania

- HIV counseling and testing in Tanzania done in the past has occurred at VCT sites only.
- The number of people in Tanzania who have been ever tested and know their HIV status has increased from 2 million ever tested in 2007 to 20 million ever tested by November 2013.
- The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and WHO point out the critical need for increasing the number of people who have received HIV counseling and testing and know their status, and are able to access care, treatment, prevention, and support services.
- In Tanzania, the national policy calls for recommending HIV testing to every person who comes to a health facility, regardless of his or her marital status.

### Similarities and differences between VCT and PITC

#### Both VCT and PITC:

- Are voluntary
- Require the consent of the client/patient
- Test for the benefit of the client/patient
- Require that the result be given to the client/patient
- Are preferably done using a rapid test with a same-day result

#### However VCT and PITC have the following differences:

	VCT	PITC
Setting	Standalone Mobile Health facilities	Health facilities
Clients/ Patients	Come for HIV test Expect to get tested for HIV More likely asymptomatic	Come for other services Not expecting HIV test Symptomatic
Initiated by	Client	Provider
Providers	Trained counselors, not necessarily a HCP	HCP trained to provide counseling
Results	Anonymous	Linked
Aim	Preventing HIV transmission through risk assessment, risk reduction plan	For appropriate management, referral for HIV care, and treatment

Pre-test Counseling	Clientcentred LongdiscussionaboutneedforHIVtesting ExplorewhethertheywishtobetestedforHIV Discuss theresultswithnegativesandpositivesclientsbecauseoft hefocusonprevention	Counsellorcentred Limiteddiscussionabout needforHIVtesting Providerrecommending HIVtesttopatients Focusonthosewhotestpositivewithemphasisont heirmedicalcare
Duration	Long:1-2hrs	Short:20-30 min

## PITC steps

### Pre-test information in PITC

During the PITC pre-test information session, the providers shall explain to the person(s) the following:

- ThereasonswhyHIVtestingandcounselingisbeingrecommended
- TheclinicalandpreventionbenefitsofHIVtesting
- Theservicesthat areavailableinthe caseofeitheranHIV-negative oranHIV-positive testresult,includingavailabilityofantiretroviral treatment
- Thatthetestresultwillbetreatedconfidentially
- Thatthepatient hastherighttodeclinethetest.
- ThatdeclininganHIVtestwillnotaffectthepatient'saccesstoservices thatdonotdependuponknowledgeofHIVstatus
- IntheeventofanHIV-positivetestresult,encouragementofdisclosure tootherpersonswhomaybeatriskofexposuretoHIV
- Thatthepatienthasanopportunitytoaskthehealthcarepractitioners questions

### HIV testing algorithm in Tanzania

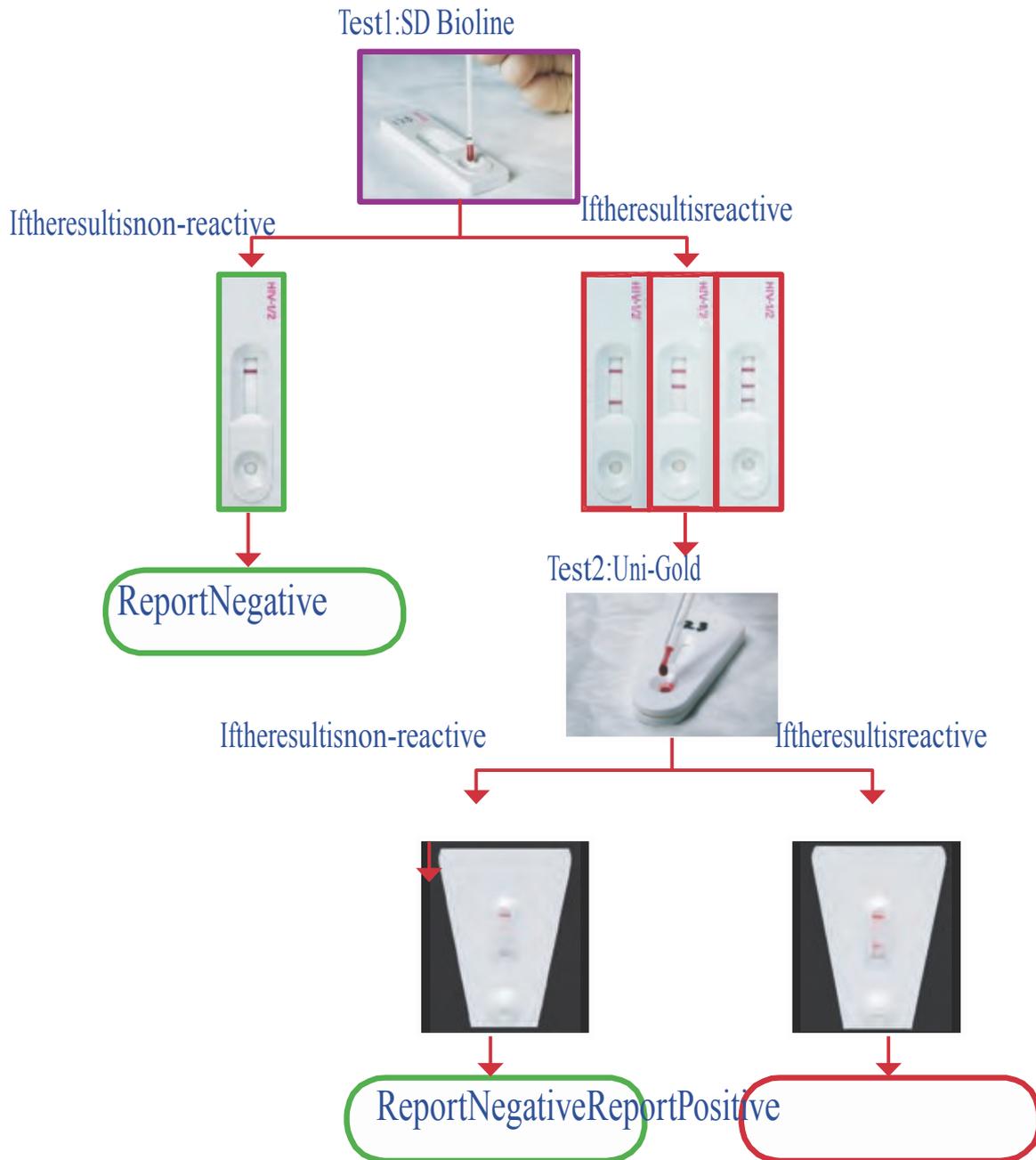
HIV testing in Tanzania is done according to the national testing algorithm and is based on serial testing. A testing algorithm refers to the combination of tests and the sequence of use in HIV testing to provide maximum sensitivity and specificity.

With 'serial testing' a blood sample is taken and tested using the "first" test. If the result is non-reactive, the test result is given to the client as HIV negative. If the test result is reactive, the blood sample is tested using a "second" different HIV test. If the second test is also reactive, the result is given to the client as HIV positive. If the second test is negative, (first test is positive and second test is negative), a "third" test (also called tie-breaker) is used. The final test result of the sample is determined by the result of the tie-breaker.

In a situation where there is no tie-breaker for rapid testing, discordant samples should be referred to the laboratory for ELISA testing.

Health care practitioners shall follow the MOH approved testing algorithm.

Figure 1: National HIV Rapid Testing Algorithm (2015)



## **Post- testcounseling**

### **During thepost-testcounselingsession,healthcarepractitioners should:**

- Assesspatient'sreadinesstoreceiveHIVtestresults
- Communicate HIVtestresultssimplyandclearlyandgivethepatient timetoconsidertheresults
- DispelanyfalsebeliefsregardinginvulnerabilityorimmunitytoHIV
- Explainhowtoremain negativeand/orhowtoprevent re-infection(condoms)
- Discussprevention, disclosureandoptionsforpartnerreferraltoHIVtestingandcounselingservices
- Arrangereferralforadditionalcounselingandsupport

### **Posttestcounselingfornegativepatients**

- Explainabout thewindowperiod andthe importanceofrepeatingthe testwithin3months
- BasicadviceonmethodstopreventHIVtransmission
- Provisionofmaleandfemalecondomsandguidanceontheiruse.

### **Post- testcounselingforpositivepatients**

**Individualswhose testresultisHIV-positive,thehealthcareprovider shallprovidethefollowinginformation:**

- Informthepatientoftheresultsimplyandclearly,andgivethepatient timetoconsiderit
- Ensurethatthepatient understandstheresult
- Allow thepatienttoaskquestions
- Helpthepatient copewiththemotions arisingfromthetestresult
- Discussanyimmediateconcernsandassistthepatienttodetermine who,inher/hissocialnetwork,maybeavailableandacceptabletooffer immediate support.
- Describefollow-upserviceshatatareavailableinthehealthfacilityand inthe community,withspecialattentiontothe availabletreatment, PMTCT,andcareandsupportservices
- ProvideinformationonhowtopreventtransmissionofHIV,including provisionofmaleandfemalecondomsandguidanceontheiruse
- Provide informationon other relevant preventivehealthmeasures suchasgoodnutrition,useofco-trimoxazoleand, inmalariousareas, insecticide-treatedbednets
- Discusspossible disclosureofhis/herresult,whenandhowthismay happenandtowhom
- Encourageandofferreferralfortestingandcounselingofpartnersand children.
- Assessthe riskofviolenceorsuicideanddiscusspossible stepsto ensurethephysicalsafetyofpatients,particularly women whoare diagnosedHIV-positive.

- Arrange for follow-up visits or referrals for treatment, care, counseling, support and other services as appropriate (e.g. tuberculosis screening and treatment, prophylaxis for opportunistic infections, STI treatment, family planning, antenatal care)

### **Ethical and legal issues in PITC**

Testing and counseling services are very sensitive. Healthcare providers are expected to be aware of the below mentioned ethical and legal implications while providing these services. This is necessary due to sensitive nature of HIV and AIDS associated stigma and vulnerability of clients.

providers are

### **Informed consent**

- Always obtain informed consent of the client (no coercion)
- Verbal consent is adequate (written consent not prerequisite)

### **Privacy and confidentiality**

- All records should be kept confidential out of reach of unauthorized person
- Ensure space provides for privacy

### **Shared confidentiality**

- Only client will allow disclosure of HIV results to a third party
- Health providers may access the results for purposes of providing care to the client

### **Access to services**

- Client who declines to undergo HIV testing should not be denied other services
- Provide or refer the client to appropriate services after HIV results

### **Children <18**

- Consent provided by parents/legal guardians
- If married and/or sexually active may give own consent

### **Mentally challenged**

- Get consent from parent/legal guardian

## Chapter 3: STIs/RTIs education, counseling, contact referral and management

### Health Education

#### What is health education?

Health Education is the provision of essential information related to health to individuals or groups to promote health and health behavior.

#### How to deliver health messages to the public

Health education on STIs/RTIs can be done alongside other health education activities in the community or at a facility by using available opportunities and various media. Use of relevant Information, Education, Communication (IEC) and Behavior Change Communication (BBC) materials produced and distributed by the MOHSW and other reputable organizations are highly recommended.

Service providers are also encouraged to use other public meetings to deliver this important message on STIs/RTIs. Use of local and religious leaders and other influential people is likely to be effective. Dissemination of local STI/RTI prevalence data obtained from clinic and providing leaflet on consequences of STIs/RTIs on the person can also be used for advocacy.

Health Education on various health related issues is a routine activity done at a health facility either in groups or on individual basis.

#### What the public need to know about STIs/RTIs

The public should be educated on the following:

- Definition, cause, mode of transmission, symptoms and signs of STIs/RTIs, their complications and importance of seeking early and appropriate treatment
- Adverse outcome of STIs/RTIs particularly in pregnancy
- Presence of asymptomatic STIs/RTIs and their consequences particularly in pregnancy
- Availability of services and importance of early screening and treatment of STIs/RTIs in reducing HIV transmission
- The role of men in STI/RTI control and utilization of services.
- Importance of partner management

#### What to observe when planning for health education

The following should be observed when preparing for health education sessions:

- Prepare the session in advance
- The content is what you want the audience to hear
- Main points should be stressed IEC/BCC materials, which relate to the session have to be prepared in advance
- Have a clear understanding of the content and how to make the presentation understood

- The presentation is given in an attractive and enjoyable manner
- Rehearse the presentation and make sure there is enough time for the content to be covered

### **How to make a good presentation**

Greet the audience, introduce yourself and your topic and objectives

- Present content factually and clearly
- Maintain an engagement with the audience. For example make presentation while standing, maintain eye contact so that clients/audience maintain their interest
- Make sure your voice is audible
- Give time to audience to ask questions, clarify and summarize

### **Counseling**

#### **What is counseling?**

Counseling is a (Confidential) dialogue between a counselor and a client aimed at helping the client cope with a difficult situation through informed decision-making.

#### **Counseling is not:**

- Giving advice
- Telling someone what to do
- Interrogating someone
- Finding a solution to someone's problem

#### **Basic skills of counseling**

- Relationship building
- Exploration
- Understanding
- Action plan

#### **Factors that promote successful counseling**

- Privacy and confidentiality
- Empathy as an ability to enter someone else's world as if it was yours
- Willingness to help
- Accuracy of information

- Respect
- Use of understandable language
- Use of visual aids
- Use of good listening skills throughout the process

### **What you need to remember when doing counseling**

- There is no direct answer in counseling
- Do not be judgmental toward the client
- The client and not the counselor make the final decision
- It is not advisable to counsel your relative, a friend or someone who is very close to you. In such a situation refer the client to your colleague
- Do not give results to any other person other than the client

### **Counseling in special situation (Couple counseling)**

- Counseling a man and a woman together may need empowering them with additional negotiations skills.
- The provider needs to assess the individual's situation, coach him/her on appropriate negotiations skills, offer to meet with partner and offer continued follow-up support.

### **Differences between counseling and health education**

#### **Counseling**

- Confidential
- Usually one to one or couple
- Evolves strong emotions in both Client and counselor
- Focused, specific and goal targeted information used to change attitudes
- Issue-oriented
- Based on needs of client

#### **Health education**

- Not usually confidential
- Small or large groups of people
- Emotionally neutral
- Generalized
- Content oriented

- Based on public health needs

### **Contact Notification, Referral and Management**

Contact notification, referral and management in STI/RTI control involve the process of counseling STI/RTI clients (index case) to notify and refer his/her sexual contact(s) to the facility for management.

#### **What is index case?**

The first STI client reported for management

#### **What is contact case?**

Sexual partner/s referred to the clinic by the index client for management

#### **Purpose of contact management**

The purpose of notifying and treating sexual partner(s) is to break the chain of transmission and prevent possible eventual re-infections.

It is therefore important to include all contacts that the client might have had sexual contact with during the past three months.

#### **What are the steps for contact notification and referral?**

- The service provider counsel the client who has an STI/RTI and provide treatment. A referral card (or slip) known as TAARIFAMUHIMU (important notice) is given to the index case requesting contacts to report to the mentioned facility/clinic. The referral card contains the registration number of the index case only and not the name
- The client who has an STI/RTI informs the contact by handing them the referral slip and explaining the importance for the partner to attend the mentioned facility or clinic.
- The contact presents the referral card to the facility service provider for appropriate care

#### **How to manage the contact?**

- Contact with STI/RTI syndrome is treated according to the found syndrome and of the index case
- Contact without signs or symptoms is treated to equivalent syndrome of the index case (epidemiological treatment)
- The service providers should show appreciation to the contact for responding positively to the request to attend the clinic and explain/ counsel on the reason for the notice
- During counseling the contact should be asked and educated on the importance of treating other partners
- Other contact management measures are discussed in the National Guideline for management of STIs/RTIs chapter 3 on page 44

- Before discharging the client, health education is provided. Contacts with an STI/RTI syndrome are regarded as contact index cases. They should therefore be asked to refer their own further contacts

They

## Chapter 4: Preventing STIs/RTIs and their complications

### Introduction

The provision of STI/RTI clinical care at the various levels of the health care delivery system in Tanzania offers a unique opportunity to deliver prevention messages and interventions. People in need of care who have established a trust relationship with a health care provider are motivated and are likely to accept the need for behavior change and adopt practices necessary to stop further transmission of STIs/RTIs.

A comprehensive approach to management of STIs/RTIs includes prevention of sexually transmitted, iatrogenic and endogenous infections.

### Important points to note in STI/RTI prevention

- Since STIs/RTIs are known as being co-factors for HIV transmission. Health care provider should ensure provision of quality STI/RTI services in all health facilities through both aetiological and syndromic approach. Training, provision of adequate supplies and supportive supervision should be undertaken
- Condom, both male and female, constitute an effective protection measure against many STI/RTI and HIV infection transmission. Easy access to condoms for those who need them within the health care settings should be ensured and scaled up. All health care staff should provide education on consistent and proper condom use.
- Some STIs/RTIs are transmitted by contaminated blood e.g. HIV infection and syphilis. An effective and well-functioning national blood transfusion services including screening of blood before transfusion will ensure the regular availability of adequate amount of safe blood in all transfusion centres.
- Sex workers and their clients, homosexuals and drug users have disproportionately high prevalence of STIs/RTIs and HIV compared to general population. Increasing access to services and interventions for these groups will reduce transmission of STIs/RTIs and HIV among these groups and in the general population.
- The priority health sector intervention for vulnerable groups including youths, men and pregnant women, include the expansion of youth friendly services and outreach services for men and integration of STIs/RTIs into reproductive and child health services. If these programmes are well implemented they can reduce risk of transmission.
- Voluntary Counseling and Testing as well as Provider Initiative Testing and Counseling have been shown to be effective in influencing change in sexual behavior and practices. They also need to be accessible and user friendly.
- Minimal infection control measures and adherence to standard precautions for prevention of infection during invasive procedures and during child birth can help to prevent many iatrogenic RTIs.
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## Chapter 5: Promoting Prevention of STIs/RTIs and use of services

Promotion of STI/RTI prevention and the use of services remain to be among the top agenda of healthcare providers in order to ensure wide utilization of these services by the people in need. However, it has been noted that providing STI/RTI services does not mean that they will be used by all populations and other vulnerable groups, particularly the poor, key

### What are the barriers?

Utilization of STI/RTI services in Tanzania is affected by a number of factors such as;

- Unskilled healthcare providers
- De-motivated healthcare providers
- Negative attitude of healthcare providers, Lack of equipment, medicine and supplies, Inability to meet the cost
- Lack of awareness
- Lack of community involvement and support
- Unfriendly clinic/facility setting e.g. opening hours, lack of privacy
- Inadequate STI/RTI services for special groups e.g. youth friendly services
- Stigma attached to STI/RTI services

For further information on barriers in utilization of STI/RTI services refer to chapter 5 on page 59 and 60 of the National Guideline for Management of STIs/RTIs.

### What needs to be done?

It is important to remove the barriers that prevent people from using STI/RTI services by:

- Training of health service providers in STIs/RTIs and customer care
- Integrating STI/RTI services into routine facility/clinic services
- Introducing mobile and outreach STI/RTI services for special/vulnerable groups
- Adequate access to correct information on STIs/RTIs
- Addressing clinic/facility delivery barriers such as opening hours, availability of medicines
- Gender sensitive services
- Affordable services
- Community participation and ownership
- Health workers need to be targeted with measures to reduce stigma and discrimination within the health service delivery setting particularly among key populations.
- Health workers need also to be appropriately informed and sensitized on the issues surrounding STIs/RTIs so that they can transfer this knowledge and measures to reduce stigma within the general population

## **Can community participation help?**

Community can promote prevention and utilization of STI/RTI services through the following:

- Advocacy through community forums
- Promotion of peer education
- Supporting and participating outreach services
- Referring clients to the services

## **Comprehensive STI Control Services for Key Vulnerable Populations**

Barriers to control of STIs in key vulnerable populations include poor access to effective prevention and care, as well as difficult social conditions that reduce ability to insist on preventive services such as condom use.

Services should be convenient, private and confidential. Outreach should be organized to reach key vulnerable populations who do not have easy access to services. Peer education is key to supporting key vulnerable populations in demanding safer conditions.

Health workers should support legal and social efforts to reduce harassment and facilitate provision of preventive and curative services as a public health benefit.

**NB.** Issues related to reaching groups that do not normally use reproductive health services including adolescent/youth, key populations and other vulnerable groups have been extensively discussed in the National Guidelines for management of STI/RTI services chapter 5 on Page 62 to 68.

## Chapter 6: Integrating STI/RTI services into routine reproductive health services

Why integrate STI/RTI services into routine RH services?

Why People who are supposed to benefit from reproductive health services form a greater part of the country population. The RH services are intended to cater for both men and women from childhood to adulthood. Yet, for many years routine RH services have not been addressing STI/RTI management adequately.

### The reasons for integrating these services include:

- Prevention of STIs/RTIs and their complications require a common approach within reproductive health services because, the clinical appearance of different STIs/RTIs overlaps especially in women.
- In reproductive health settings such as antenatal and family planning clinics, non-sexually transmitted infections (RTIs) are usually commoner than STIs.
- Failure to diagnose and treat STIs/RTIs at early stage of pregnancy may result into adverse outcomes including foetal wastage, premature delivery
- Other serious complications are infertility, ectopic pregnancy as well as neonatal infections (Neonatal conjunctivitis, neonatal pneumonia, congenital syphilis).
- Reproductive health services provide an opportunity for assessing, diagnosing and treating STIs/RTIs
- Integrating STIs/RTIs into routine reproductive health services is an innovative approach that uses special skills to reach more clients who need them.

### STI/RTI assessment during Family Planning visits

#### What service providers need to remember?

- Women attending Family Planning clinic have usually come for family planning methods and not for STIs/RTIs. They may not be prepared to hear that they have an STI/RTI
- Introducing the topic of STIs/RTIs should be done with greater care.
- If the topic is brought too early, the woman may feel that her family planning needs have been ignored and if brought too late, the choice of method may need to be considered.
- Service providers should use appropriate communication skills when introducing the topic of STIs/RTIs.
- Open ended and personalized questions such as “please tell me what your concerns are in relation to infection that is spread by sex” can yield better results than closed questions requiring ‘YES or NO’ answer.
- Do not lose this opportunity for STI/RTI screening, education and counseling, and providing appropriate treatment
- STI/RTI prevention and concerns should be discussed with all family planning clients at each visit. Dual protection against pregnancy and STIs/RTIs should be promoted at every opportunity.

#### What you need to do when the client visits the facility

### **Step one: Discuss the method**

- Contraceptive needs
- STI protection needs
- Options of methods
- Help clients select method

### **Step two: Assess for STIs/RTIs**

- Find out if your client has a STI/RTI
- Assess the need for STI/RTI screening and treatment
- Assess medical eligibility for the preferred method

### **Step three: Provide the method**

- Counsel the client as per counseling guidelines
- Demonstrate use of condom
- Consider STI/RTI risk for the preferred contraceptive method

**NB.** Procedures for integrating STIs/RTIs in routine FP services and provision of dual protection and emergency contraception are adequately discussed in the National guidelines for management of STIs/RTIs chapter 6 on page 70 to 79.

STI/RTI assessment in pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period

### **Why STI/RTI assessment in pregnancy and childbirth?**

STI/RTI prevention and management are important during pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period due to the seriousness of the associated complications. For example, upper genital tract infections may lead to spontaneous abortion or preterm rupture of membranes. Complications of untreated STIs/RTIs following delivery may be life threatening. Service provider must utilize antenatal clinic visits to detect and treat STIs/RTIs.

### **What you need to do**

#### **At first antenatal visit**

- Detect and manage STIs/RTIs
- Offer syphilis testing and treatment
- Screen for bacterial vaginosis and trichomoniasis
- Provide PITC for HIV
- Discuss plans for delivery and postpartum care

#### **During follow-up antenatal visit**

- Assess for symptoms of STIs/RTIs in themselves and their partners
- Repeat syphilis testing if the initial test was negative
- If the mother is HIV positive manage or refer according to PMCTC protocols
- Review birth plans, options for infant feeding and postpartum contraception
- Insist on STI/RTI prevention and condom use

### **During labour and delivery**

- Look for signs of STIs/RTIs
- Carefully manage ruptured membranes using aseptic procedures
- In case of genital herpes and/or warts, suspect and refer to hospital for caesarean section.
- Observe standard precautions against infection throughout the process of labour and delivery
- Provide prophylaxis against neonatal conjunctivitis
- Observe baby for signs of syphilis and treat
- Treat for syphilis in babies born to syphilis-positive mother even if the mother was treated

### **During postpartum period**

- Assess for STI/RTI and provide treatment during the follow-up visits

### **Management of STI/RTI complications related to pregnancy, abortion and the postpartum period**

Infections in pregnancy, following miscarriage, induced abortion or in the postpartum can be life-threatening. They must be managed aggressively, efficiently and without delays. Serious complications include endometritis and septic abortions in case of induced abortion and endometritis and puerperal sepsis in case of postpartum infections.

### **Management of infections in early pregnancy**

Infections in early pregnancy usually lead to abortions, therefore;

- Perform rapid assessment to rule out early signs of abortion
- Provide antibiotics intramuscularly or intravenously (IM or IV)
- Perform safe evacuation of the uterine content if possible
- Refer to appropriate hospital for further management

### **Management of infections during rupture of membranes**

- Assess for the existence of infections
- Provide antibiotics I.V or IM to avoid unnecessary vaginal examination
- Manage according to appropriate flowchart chapter 9 on page 99 of the National guideline
- Refer to appropriate facility for further management

### **Management of infections following childbirth**

Infections following child birth are associated with postpartum

endometritis and puerperal sepsis. The healthcare providers should do the following:

- Assess for STIs/RTIs
- Provide antibiotics IM or IV
- Manage according to flowchart chapter 9 on page 100 in the National guideline
- Refer immediately to appropriate facility

The following tables show various regimens for the above-mentioned infections

**Treatment table 6.1: Antibiotic regimens for treatment of infection following miscarriage, induced abortion or delivery (septic abortion, postpartum, endometritis)**

OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4
Commonly available, least expensive. Give all 3 drugs	Choose one drug from each box (=3 drugs)	Give both drugs	Choose one drug from each box (=3 drugs)
<b>Ampicilin</b> 2g intravenously or intramuscularly. then 1g every 6 hours	<b>Ceftriaxone</b> 250mg by intravenously or intramuscular injection, every 8 hours	<b>Clindamycin</b> 900mg by intravenous injection, every 8 hours	<b>Cefixime</b> 400mg orally single dose, or spectinomycin 1g by intramuscular injection, 4 times a day
<b>Gentamicin</b> 80mg intravenously or intramuscularly every 12 hours	<b>Doxycycline</b> 100mg orally or intravenous injection, twice a day, or tetracycline 500mg orally 4 times a day	<b>Gentamicin</b> 1.5mg/kg of body weight by intravenous injection every 12 hours	<b>Doxycycline</b> 100mg orally or by intravenous injection twice a day, or <b>tetracycline</b> , 500mg orally, 4 times a day
<b>metronidazole<sup>a</sup></b> 500mg orally or intravenous infusion every 8 hours	<b>metronidazole<sup>a</sup></b> 400-500mg orally or by intravenous injection, twice a day, or chloramphenicol 500mg orally or Intravenous injection, 4 times a day		<b>metronidazole<sup>a</sup></b> 400-500mg orally or by intravenous injection, twice a day, or chloramphenicol 500 mg orally or by Intravenous injection, 4 times a day

- Patients taking metronidazole should be counseled to avoid alcohol.
- The use of quinolones should take into consideration the patterns of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* resistance

**Treatment table 6.2: Antibiotic regimens for treatment of infectious complications with viable pregnancy(chorioamnionitis, rupture of membranes)**

OPTION 1- Safest for fetus when there are no signs of maternal infection	OPTION 2- Best coverage when maternal signs of infection (fever, foul smelling discharge) are present
Oral/intramuscular combination that is safe in pregnancy. Choose one from each box (=3 drugs)	Commonly available. least expensive. Give all 3 drugs until delivery. If woman delivers vaginally discontinue all antibiotic after delivery. If delivery is by Caesarean section, continue antibiotics until she is fever free for 48 hours
<b>Cefixime</b> 400mg orally as a single dose, or <b>ceftriaxone</b> 125-250mg by intramuscular injection	<b>Ampicilin 2g intravenously</b> or intramuscularly, then 1g every 6 hours
<b>Erythromycin</b> <sup>a</sup> 500mg orally 4 times aday for 7 days, or <b>azithromycin</b> 1g orally as a single dose	<b>Gentamicin</b> 80mg intramuscularly every 12 hours
<b>Metronidazole</b> <sup>b</sup> 2g orally as a single dose	<b>Metronidazole</b> <sup>b</sup> 500mg orally or by intravenous infusion every 8 hours

- Erythromycin estolate is contraindicated in pregnancy because of drug-related hepatotoxicity; only erythromycin base or erythromycin ethylsuccinate should be used.
- Patients taking metronidazole should be counseled to avoid alcohol.

**Treatment table 6.3. Recommended treatment for vaginal infection in pregnancy**

Therapy for **bacterial vaginosis** and trichomoniasis PLUS Therapy for **yeast infection** if curd-like white discharge, vulvo-vaginal redness and itching are present

Coverage	First choice Choose one from BV/TV box below, or one from each box if yeast infection is suspected	Effective substitutes	If woman is pregnant or breastfeeding Choose one from BV/TV box below, or one from each box if yeast infection is suspected
<b>Bacterial Vaginosis</b>	<b>Metronidazole</b> 2g orally in a single dose, or <b>metronidazole</b> 400 or 500 mg orally twice a day for 7 days	<b>Clindamycin</b> cream 2%, one full applicator (5g) intravaginally at bed time for 7days, or <b>clindamycin</b> 300 mg orally twice a day for 7days	Preferably after first trimester <b>Metronidazole</b> 200 or 250 mg orally 3 times a dayfor 7 days, or <b>metronidazole</b> gel 0.75%, one full applicator (5g) intravaginally twice a dayfor 5 days, or <b>clindamycin</b> 300 mg orally twice a day for 7 days
<b>Trichomoniasis</b>		<b>Tinidazole</b> 2g orally in a single dose, or <b>tinidazole</b> 500mg orally twice a day for 5 days	
<b>Candida albicans (yeast)</b>	<b>Miconazole</b> 200 mg vaginal suppository, one aday for 3 days, or <b>clotrimazole</b> 100mg vaginal tablet, two tablets a day for 3 days, or <b>fluconazole</b> 150mg oral tablet, in a single dose	<b>Nystatin</b> 100,000 unitvaginal tablet, onea day for 14 days	<b>Miconazole</b> 200 mg vaginal suppository, one a day for 3 days, or <b>clotrimazole</b> 100mg vaginal tablet, two tablets a day for3 days, or <b>nystatin</b> 100,000 unit vaginal tablet, one a day for 14days.

Patients taking metronidazole or tinidazole should be cautioned to avoid alcohol. Use of metronidazole is not recommended in the first trimester of pregnancy.

Vaginal tablets/pessaries preferably be applied during the night (before sleeping)

- Single-dose clotrimazole (500 mg) available in some places is also effective for yeast infection

## Chapter 7: Management of STIs/RTIs

### What you need to know?

This refers to management of STIs/RTIs in people with or without symptoms. Usually people seek for care because they have symptoms.

Asymptom is something that the patient notices, while a sign is something observed by the healthcare provider.

### Four clinical situations are common:

- A person comes to the clinic with a spontaneous complaint of STI/RTI symptoms
- A patient admits to symptoms when asked by the healthcare provider (elicited symptoms).
- The healthcare provider detects signs of STIs/RTIs when examining a patient for other reasons
- A person comes to the clinic as a contact to STI/RTI index case with or without symptoms and signs.

### What a service provider needs to note

- Healthcare providers should be able to recognize STI/RTI symptoms and signs in these different clinical situations.
- They should know when it is possible to tell the difference between STIs and non-sexually transmitted conditions. Women with genital tracts symptoms may be concerned about STI even though most symptomatic RTIs in women are not sexually transmitted.
- Providers and patients should also understand that STIs/RTIs are often asymptomatic, and that the absence of symptoms does not necessarily exclude infection. Screening for asymptomatic STI/RTI should be done where possible.

### STIs/RTIs can be managed through the following approaches:

**Aetiological laboratory approach:** A client is treated for a specific causative agent based on the laboratory results. This approach is possible in only a few health facilities which are equipped with diagnostics to conduct investigations.

**Aetiological clinical approach:** A client is treated for a suspected causative agent based on the clinical assessment.

**Syndromic approach:** A client is treated for causative agents based on the identification of syndromes (symptoms and signs). This is the recommended approach for health facilities which cannot employ a laboratory approach.

**NB1:** Advantages and disadvantages of each approach are discussed fully in the National Guideline for STI/RTI management chapter 8 on page 91.

**NB2:** Syndromic management approach entails the service provider to follow laid down steps in a flowchart which guides him or her in making rational

management decision. These flowcharts are sometimes known as treatment algorithms, treatment protocols or treatment decision trees.

### Steps in using the flowcharts:

- Start by asking the patient for his/hersymptoms
- Find the appropriate flowchart as stated in the clinical problem box with “Patient Complaints of...”
- The clinical problem box usually leads to an action box, which asks you to take the history and examine the patient.
- Next, move to the decision box. After taking the history and examining the patient you should have the necessary information to choose Yes or No accurately.
- Depending on your choice, there may be further decision and action boxes.

**NB.** It is essential to carry out speculum and bimanual examination when attending female client and the procedure involved is illustrated below. However for history taking and other physical examination refer to Annex 1 on pages 121 to 125 in the National Guideline for management of STIs/RTIs.

### Procedure for speculum examination

- Be sure the speculum has been properly disinfected or sterilized before you use it. Wet the speculum with clean warm water or a lubricant, available, before inserting it. (refer to Annex 2 on pages 129 to 131 in National Guideline for management of STIs/RTIs) if
- Insert the first finger of your gloved hand in the opening of the vagina (some clinicians use the tip of the speculum instead of a finger for this step). As you put your finger in, push gently downward on the muscle surrounding the vagina. Proceed slowly, waiting for the woman to relax her muscles.
- With the other hand, hold the speculum blades together between the pointing finger and the middle finger. Turn the blades sideways and slip them into the vagina. Be careful not to press on the urethra or clitoris because these areas are very sensitive. When the speculum is halfway in, turn it so the handle is down. Note: on some examination couches, there is not enough room to insert the speculum handle down—in this case, turn it handle up.
- Gently open the blades a little and look for the cervix. Move the speculum slowly and gently until you can see the cervix between the blades. Tighten the screw (or otherwise lock on the speculum) so it will stay in place.
- Check the cervix, which should look pink, round and smooth. There may be small yellowish cysts, areas of redness around the opening (cervical os) or a clear mucoid discharge; these are normal findings. Look for signs of cervical infection by checking for yellowish discharge or easy bleeding when the cervix is touched with a swab. Note any abnormal growths or sores.
- Notice if the cervix is open or closed, and whether there is any discharge or bleeding. If you are examining the woman because she is bleeding from the vagina after birth, induced abortion or miscarriage, look for tissue coming from the opening of the cervix.

- To remove the speculum, gently pull it towards you until the blades are clear of the cervix. Then bring the blades together and gently pull back, turning the speculum gently to look at the walls of the vagina.
- Be sure to disinfect your speculum after each examination.

### Signs to look for during speculum examination

Signs to look for during speculum examination
Vaginal discharge and redness of the vaginal walls are common signs of vaginitis. When the discharge is white and curd-like, yeast infection is likely.
Ulcers, sores or blisters.
If the cervix bleeds easily when touched or the discharge appears mucopurulent with discoloration, cervical infection is likely.
If you are reexamining the woman after birth, induced abortion or miscarriage, look for bleeding from the vagina or tissue fragments and check to be sure the cervix is normal.
Tumours or other abnormal-looking tissue on the cervix.

### How to feel the reproductive parts inside the abdomen: Bimanual examination

- Test for cervical motion tenderness. Put the pointing finger of your gloved hand in the woman's vagina. As you put your finger in, push gently downward on the muscles surrounding the vagina. When the muscles relax, put the middle finger into it. Turn the palm of your hand up.
- Feel the opening of her womb (cervix) to see if it is firm and round.
- Then put one finger on either side of the cervix and move the cervix gently while watching the woman's facial expression. It should move easily without causing pain. If it does cause pain (you may see her grimace), this sign is called cervical motion tenderness, and she may have an infection of the womb, tubes or ovaries. If her cervix feels soft, she may be pregnant.
- Feel the womb by gently pushing on her lower abdomen with your outside hand. This moves the inside parts (womb, tubes and ovaries) close to your inside hand. The womb may be tipped forward or backward. If you do not feel it in front of the cervix, gently lift the cervix and feel around it for the body of the womb. If you feel it under the cervix, it is pointed back.
- When you find the womb, feel for its size and shape. Do this by moving your inside finger to the sides of the cervix, and then "walk" your outside fingers around the womb. It should feel firm, smooth and smaller than a lemon.
  - If the womb feels soft and large, she is probably pregnant.

- If it feels lumpy and hard, she may have a fibroid or other growth.
  - If it hurts when you touch it, she may have an infection inside.
  - If it does not move freely, she could have scars from an old infection.
- Feel the tubes and ovaries. If these are normal, they will be hard to feel. If you feel any lumps that are bigger than an almond or that cause severe pain, she could have an infection or other emergency. If she has a painful lump, and her period is late, she could have an ectopic pregnancy and needs medical help right away.
  - Move your finger and feel along the inside of the vagina. Make sure there are no unusual lumps, tears or sores.
  - Have the woman cough or push down as if she were passing stool.
  - Watch to see if something bulges out of the vagina. If it does, she could have a fallen womb or fallen bladder (prolapse).
  - When you are finished, dispose of glove appropriately. Wash your hands well with soap and water.

### Signs noted during bimanual examination

SIGNS TO LOOK FOR WHEN DOING A BIMANUAL EXAMINATION	
Lower abdominal tenderness when pressing down over the uterus with the outside hand.	
Cervical motion tenderness (often evident from facial expression) on gloved hand in the vagina. Uterine or adnexal tenderness when pressing the outside and inside hand together over the uterus (contralateral adnexa (opposite of uterus)).	
Any abnormal growth or hardness to the touch.	

### Aetiological approach

#### Recommended treatment for gonococcal infections

##### Genital and anorectal gonococcal infections

These recommendations apply to adults, adolescents (10–19 years of age), people living with HIV, and key populations, including sex workers, men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender persons. Local treatment resistance data should determine the choice of drugs. In settings where data are not available, however, dual treatment should be applied over single treatment in infected individuals.

##### Dual therapy

- Ceftriaxone 250 mg intramuscular (IM) as a single dose PLUS azithromycin 1 g orally as a single dose
- Cefixime 400 mg orally as a single dose PLUS azithromycin 1 g orally as a single dose

Single therapy (one of the following, based on recent local resistance data confirming susceptibility to

the antimicrobial)

- Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM as a single dose
- Cefixime 400 mg orally as a single dose
- Spectinomycin 2 g IM as a single dose

### **Oropharyngeal gonococcal infections**

Dual therapy (one of the following)

Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM as a single dose PLUS azithromycin 1 g orally as a single dose  
Cefixime 400 mg orally as a single dose PLUS azithromycin 1 g orally as a single dose

Single therapy (based on recent local resistance data confirming susceptibility to the antimicrobial)

Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM as single dose.

### **Retreatment of gonococcal infections after treatment failure**

If reinfection is suspected, re-treat with a recommended regimen, reinforce sexual abstinence or condom use, and provide partner treatment.

- If treatment failure occurred after treatment with a regimen not recommended, re-treat with a recommended regimen.
- If treatment failure occurred and resistance data are available, re-treat according to susceptibility.
- If treatment failure occurred after treatment with a recommended single therapy, re-treat with recommended dual therapy.
- If treatment failure occurred after a recommended dual therapy, re-treat with one of the following dual therapies:
  - Ceftriaxone 500 mg IM as a single dose PLUS azithromycin 2 g orally as a single dose
  - Cefixime 800 mg orally as a single dose PLUS azithromycin 2 g orally as a single dose
  - Gentamicin 240 mg IM as a single dose PLUS azithromycin 2 g orally as a single dose
  - Spectinomycin 2 g IM as a single dose (if not an oropharyngeal infection) PLUS azithromycin

### **Ophthalmia neonatorum**

One of the following treatments

Ceftriaxone 50 mg/kg (maximum 150 mg) IM as a single dose  
Kanamycin 25 mg /kg (maximum 75 mg) IM as a single dose  
Spectinomycin 25 mg/kg (maximum 75 mg) IM as a single dose.

### **Recommended treatment for chlamydial infections**

#### **Uncomplicated genital chlamydia**

These recommendations apply to adults, adolescents (10–19 years of age), people living with HIV, and key populations, including sex workers, men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender persons.

One of the following options:

Azithromycin 1 g orally as a single oral dose  
Doxycycline 100 mg orally twice a day for 7 days

or one of these alternatives:

- Tetracycline 500 mg orally four times a day for 7 days
- Erythromycin 500 mg orally twice a day for 7 days

- Ofloxacin 200–400 mg orally twice a day for 7 days.

### **Anorectal Chlamydial infection**

Use of doxycycline 100 mg orally twice daily for 7 days over azithromycin 1 g orally single dose.

### **Chlamydial infection in pregnant women**

Recommendations: For genital chlamidia in pregnancy, the guidelines strongly recommend using

- a. Azithromycin
- b. In its absence, the other options can be amoxicillin or erythromycin.

Dosages:

- Azithromycin 1 g orally as a single dose
- Amoxicillin 500 mg orally three times a day for 7 days
- Erythromycin 500 mg orally twice a day for 7 days.

### **Lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV)**

In adults and adolescents with LGV, the guideline suggests using doxycycline 100 mg orally twice daily for 21 days. In its absence, you may consider azithromycin 1 g orally, weekly for 3 weeks.

### **Ophthalmiaeonatorum**

In neonates with chlamydial conjunctivitis, the guideline recommends using oral azithromycin 20 mg/kg/day orally, one dose daily for 3 days. In its absence, consider the use of erythromycin 50 mg/kg/day orally, in four divided doses daily for 14 days.

For all neonates, the guideline recommends topical ocular prophylaxis for the prevention of gonococcal and chlamydial ophthalmiaeonatorum.

For ocular prophylaxis, the guideline suggests one of the following options for topical application to both eyes immediately after birth:

- Tetracycline hydrochloride 1% eye ointment
- Erythromycin 0.5% eye ointment
- Povidone iodine 2.5% solution (water-based)
- Silver nitrate 1% solution
- Chloramphenicol 1% eye ointment.

### **Treatment of treponema pallidum (syphilis)**

These recommendations apply to adults, adolescents (10–19 years of age), people living with HIV, and key populations, including sex workers, men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender persons.

### **Early syphilis**

These include primary, secondary and early latent syphilis of not more than two years' duration)

Recommendations

- In adults and adolescents with early syphilis, the guideline strongly recommends benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units once intramuscularly as a treatment of choice
- In adults and adolescents with early syphilis, the guideline conditionally suggests using procaine penicillin G 1.2 million units 10–14 days intramuscularly in absence of the first choice.

- When benzathine or procaine penicillin cannot be used (e.g. due to penicillin allergy) or are not available (e.g. due to stock-outs), the guideline conditionally suggests using doxycycline 100 mg twice daily orally for 14 days or ceftriaxone 1 g intramuscularly once daily for 10–14 days.
- In pregnant women with early syphilis, the guideline strongly recommends benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units once intramuscularly as the treatment of choice.
- In pregnant women with early syphilis, the guideline conditionally suggests using procaine penicillin 1.2 million units intramuscularly once daily for 10 days in absence of the first choice.

### Late syphilis

This include infection of more than two years' duration without evidence of treponemal infection

#### Recommendations

- In adults and adolescents with late syphilis or unknown stage of syphilis, the guideline strongly recommends benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units intramuscularly once weekly for three consecutive weeks. The interval between consecutive doses of benzathine penicillin should not exceed 14 days.
- In absence of the first choice, the guideline conditionally suggests procaine penicillin 1.2 million units once daily for 20 days.
- When benzathine or procaine penicillin cannot be used (e.g. due to penicillin allergy where penicillin desensitization is not possible) or are not available (e.g. due to stock-outs), the guideline conditionally suggests using doxycycline 100 mg twice daily orally for 30 days.
- Doxycycline should not be used in pregnant women (see recommendations 7 and 8 for pregnant women).
- In pregnant women with late syphilis or unknown stage of syphilis, the guideline strongly recommends benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units intramuscularly once weekly for three consecutive weeks as the first treatment. The interval between consecutive doses of benzathine penicillin should not exceed 14 days.
- In absence of the first choice, in pregnant women with late syphilis or unknown stage of syphilis, the guideline suggest the use of procaine penicillin 1.2 million units intramuscularly once daily for 20 days.
- When benzathine or procaine penicillin cannot be used (e.g. due to penicillin allergy where penicillin desensitization is not possible) or are not available (e.g. due to stock-outs), the guidelines conditionally suggests using, with caution, erythromycin 500 mg orally four times daily for 30 days.



Syphilitic chancre of the coronal sulcus

Syphilitic chancre is usually painless, hence could be missed by patient



### **Congenital syphilis**

In infants with confirmed congenital syphilis or infants who are clinically normal, but their mothers had untreated syphilis, inadequately treated syphilis (including treatment within 30 days of delivery) or syphilis that was treated with non-penicillin regimens, the guideline conditionally suggests aqueous benzyl penicillin or procaine penicillin.

Dosages:

- Aqueous benzyl penicillin 100 000–150 000 U/kg/day intravenously for 10–15 days
- Procaine penicillin 50 000 U/kg/day single dose intramuscularly for 10–15 days

In infants who are clinically normal and whose mothers had syphilis that was adequately treated with no signs of reinfection, the guideline suggests close monitoring of the infants.

### **Treatment of Trichomoniasis vaginalis**

Single dose treatment with nitroimidazole class drugs (metronidazole 2 g oral, for example) of the woman and her partner. Once infection has been confirmed, and reinfection has been excluded, then treatment with metronidazole, 500 mg twice a day for 7 days, or 2 g once a day for 3-5 days, will cure most women (partners of these women should be treated with the same dose).

Restrict the treatment of trichomoniasis in pregnant women to those who show symptoms of infection and are over 30 weeks of gestation.

### **Management of common STI syndromes**

#### **Urethral discharge syndrome (UDS)**

##### **Definition**

It is the presence of abnormal secretions in distal portion of urethra in males.

##### **Common signs and symptoms include:**

Urethral discharge, burning sensation or painful micturition, itchy urethra and increased frequency of micturition.

##### **Aetiologies**

Common organisms responsible are *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Trichomonas vaginalis*.

**Common complications include:**

Orchitis, epididymitis, urethral stricture and infertility



Urethra discharge in a male patient

**Management**

Take history

Proper physical examination

- Ask the client to milk urethra if necessary
- Treat according to flowchart
- Educate on the importance of drug compliance
- Provide health education and counseling on risk reduction
- Record number of contacts and initiate contact referral
- Promote and provide condoms
- Offer PITC
- Advise to return after 7 days for follow-up as needed arise

**Preventive and control measures**

- Abstinence
- Fidelity
- Correct and consistent use of condoms
- Screening for STI/RTI
- Health education
- Counseling
- Drug compliance
- Partner notification, referral and management

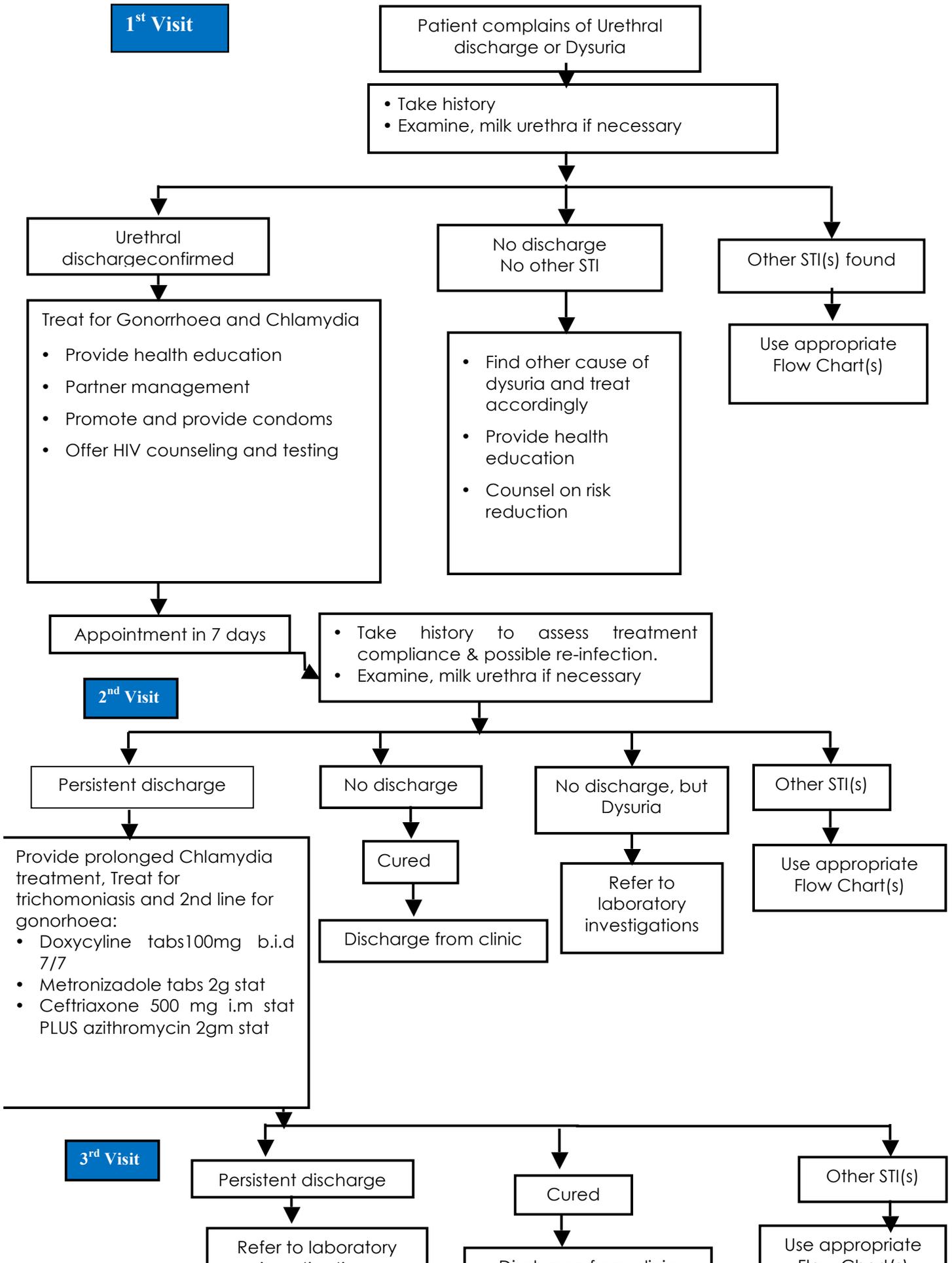
**To treat for gonococcal infection, use**

**Cefixime**, 400 mg orally, as a single dose **OR Ceftriaxone**, 250 mg by intramuscular injection as a single dose **PLUS**

**To treat for chlamydial infection, use**

**Doxycycline**, 100 mg orally twice daily for 7 days **OR Azithromycin**, 1 g orally, as a single dose

# Flow Chart 1: Management of urethral discharge syndrome (UDS)



## Vaginal Discharge Syndrome (VDS)

### Definition

It is a change of color, odor, and amount of vaginal secretions usually accompanied with symptoms and signs.

### Common symptoms and signs include:

Abnormal vaginal discharge, burning or painful micturition, itchy vulva, increased frequency and urgency of micturition and painful coitus

### Aetiologies

Common organisms responsible are *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Trichomonas vaginalis*, *Candida albicans* and *Bacteria vaginosis*

### Common complications include:

Endometritis, salpingitis, oophoritis, and ectopic pregnancy.



Vaginal discharge

### Management

- Take history
- Proper physical examination including speculum
- Treat according to appropriate flow
- Educate on importance of drug compliance
- Provide health education
- Counsel on risk reduction
- Record number of contacts and initiate contact referral
- Promote and provide condom
- Offer PITC
- Advise to return after 7 days or as the need arises

## Preventive and control measures

- Abstinence
- Fidelity
- Correct and consistent use of condom
- Screening for STI/RTI
- Health education
- Counseling
- Drug compliance
- Partner notification, referral and management

### To treat for cervicitis (due to NG and CT), use

**Cefixime**, 400 mg orally, as a single dose **OR Ceftriaxone**, 250 mg by intramuscular injection, as a single dose

#### **PLUS**

**Doxycycline**, 100 mg orally, twice daily for 7 days **OR Azithromycin**, 1 g orally, as a single dose **OR Erythromycin**, 500 mg orally, 4 times daily for 7 days

### To treat for vaginitis (BV, TV), use

**Metronidazole**, 400 mg orally twice daily for 7 days **OR Tinidazole**, 500 mg orally twice daily for 5 days

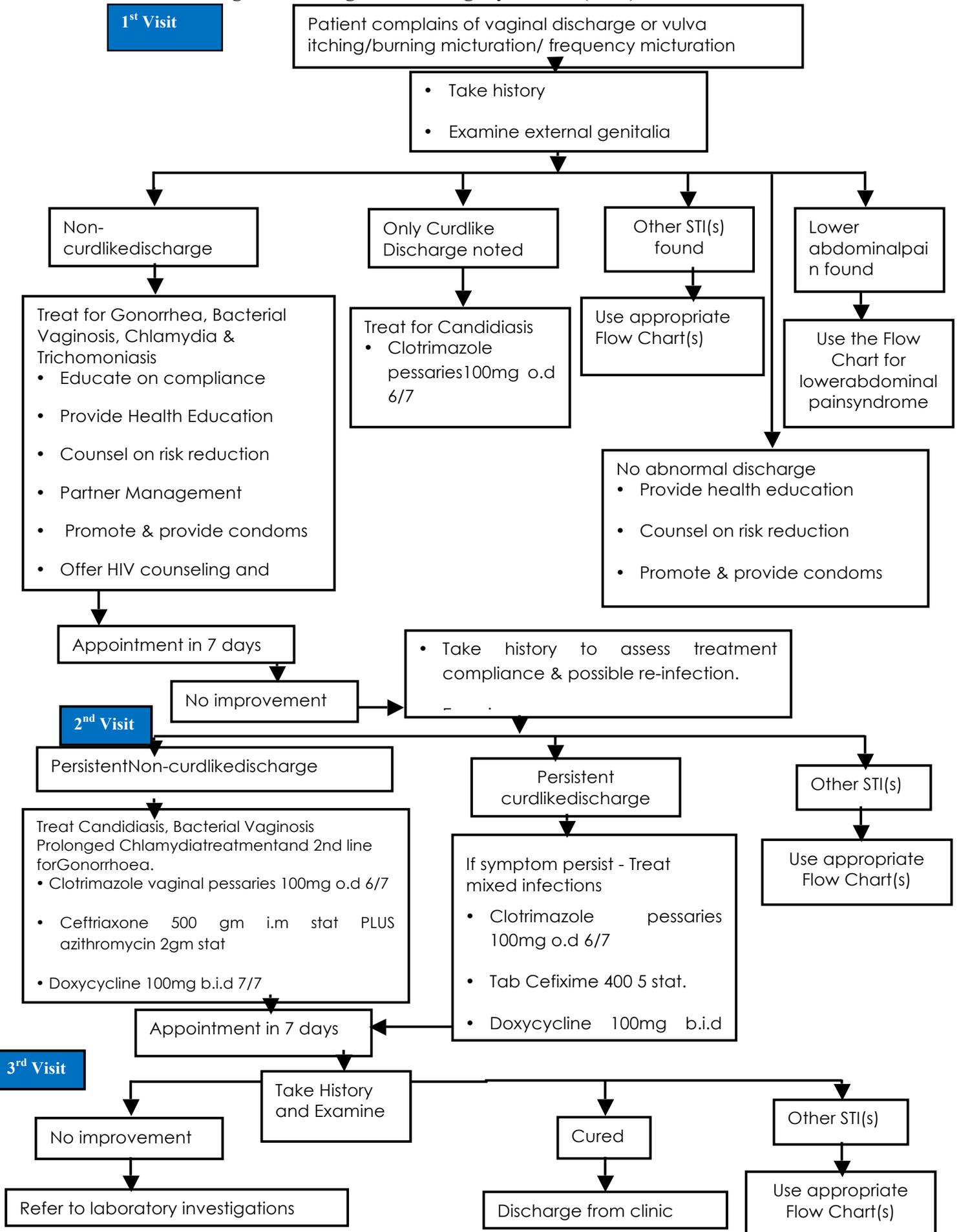
#### Note

- Doxycyclines are contraindicated in pregnancy.
- Patients taking metronidazole should be cautioned to avoid alcohol for the duration of treatment and for at least 48 hours afterwards.
- Although metronidazole has previously not been recommended for use in the first trimester of pregnancy, studies and meta-analyses have not demonstrated a consistent association between metronidazole use during pregnancy and teratogenic or mutagenic effects in newborns.

#### Note

1. Do not give Metronidazole in 1st trimester of pregnancy:
2. Do not give Doxycycline or Ciprofloxacin in pregnancy or to lactating mother: substitute with Erythromycin 500 mg t.i.d 7/7 and Ceftriaxone 250 mg i.m. stat

## Flow chart 2: Management of vaginal Discharge syndrome (VDS)



## **Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) or lower abdominal pain syndrome**

### **Definition**

It is an inflammation of the uterus and/or fallopian tubes, ovaries and pelvic peritoneum

### **Common symptoms and signs include:**

Lower abdominal pain and tenderness, painful micturition, painful coitus, abnormal vaginal discharge, menometrorrhagia, fever and sometimes nausea and vomiting

### **Aetiology**

Common aetiologies of PID are *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Anaerobic bacteria*

### **Common complications include:**

Infertility, ectopic pregnancy, chronic lower abdominal pain, dysmenorrhoea and pelvic abscess

### **Management**

- Take history
- Proper physical examination
- Treat according to appropriate flowchart
- Educate on importance of drug compliance
- Provide health education
- Counsel on risk reduction
- Record number of contacts and initiate contact referral
- Offer PITC
- Advise to return after 3 days or as the need arises

### **Preventive and control measures**

- Abstinence
- Fidelity
- Early treatment of VDS
- Screening for VDS
- Correct and consistent use of condom
- Aseptic technique in pelvic examination and invasive procedure

### **To treat for gonococcal infection, use**

**Ceftriaxone**, 250 mg by intramuscular injection, as a single dose **OR Cefoxitin**, 2 g by intramuscular injection, as a single dose **PLUS**

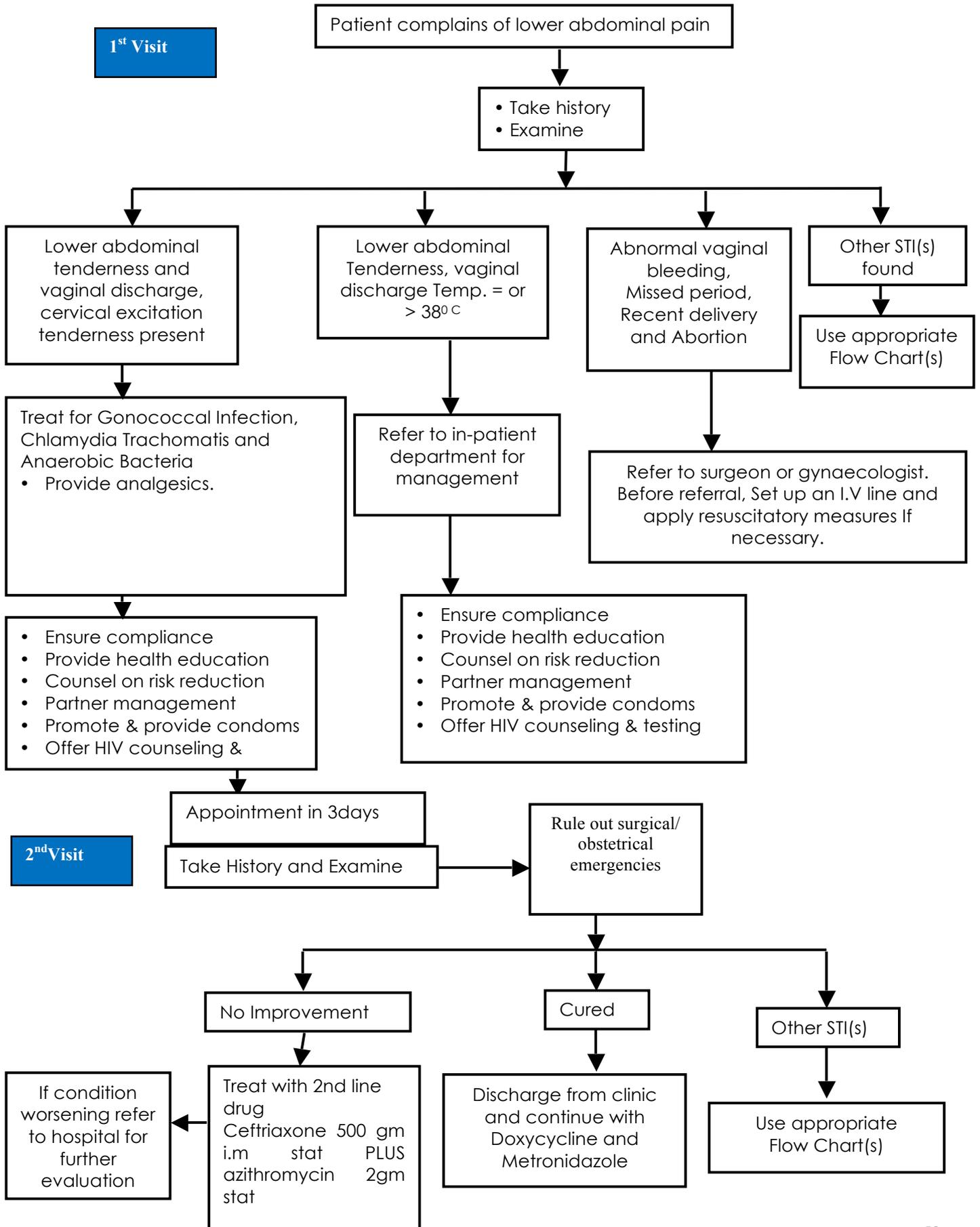
### **To treat for chlamydial infection, use**

**Doxycycline**, 100 mg orally, twice daily for 14 days **OR Erythromycin**, 500 mg orally, 4 times a day for 14 days **PLUS**

### **To treat for anaerobic infection, use**

**Metronidazole**, 400 mg orally twice daily for 14 days

Chart 3: Management of Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID)



## **In-patient treatment of PID**

All patients with PID who have fever of body temperature = or > 38<sup>0</sup>C should be admitted for closer care. The recommended in-patient treatment options for PID are as follows:

### **Regimen 1:**

- Cefixime 400mg or spectinomycin 1g by intramuscular injection, 4 times daily

*PLUS*

- Doxycycline 100 mg orally or by intravenous injection, twice daily, or tetracycline 500mg orally, 4 times daily

*PLUS*

- Metronidazole, 400-500mg orally or by intravenous injection, twice daily.

### **Regimen 2:**

- Inj Ceftriaxone, 1 gm by intramuscular injection, once daily

*PLUS*

- Doxycycline, 100mg orally or by intravenous injection, twice daily or tetracycline 500mg orally 4 times daily.

*PLUS*

- Metronidazole, 400-500mg orally or by intravenous injection, twice daily.

### **Regimen 3:**

- Clindamycin, 900 mg by intravenous injection, every 8 hours

#### **NOTE**

For all three regimens, therapy should be continued until at least two days after the patient has improved and should then be followed by either doxycycline, 100mg orally, twice daily for 14 days, or tetracycline, 500mg orally, 4 times daily, for 14 days.

Patients taking metronidazole should be cautioned to avoid alcohol.

c. Tetracyclines are contraindicated in pregnancy.

d. Gentamycin, 1.5 mg/kg by intravenous injection, every 8 hours

## **Painful scrotal swelling (PSS)**

### **Definition**

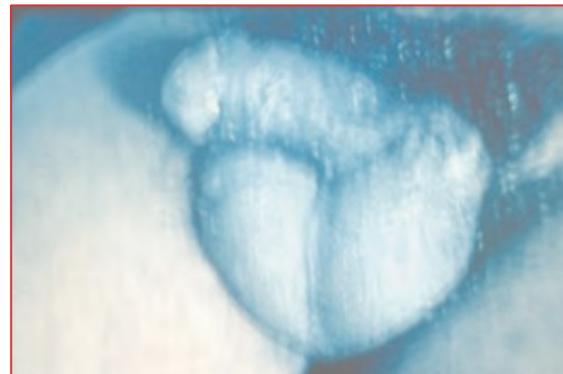
It is an inflammation of the epididymis and testis often accompanied with scrotal pain.

### **Common symptoms and signs include:**

Scrotal pain, swelling, tenderness, and fever.

### **Aetiology**

Common organisms responsible are  
Neisseria gonorrhoea and Chlamydia trachomatis.



Left Scrotal Swelling

### **Common complications include:**

Infertility and scrotal abscess

### **Management**

- Take history
- Proper physical examination
- Treat according to appropriate flowchart
- Educate on importance of drug compliance
- Provide health education
- Counsel on risk reduction
- Record number of contacts and initiate contact referral
- Promote and provide condoms
- Offer PITC
- Advise to return after 7 days for follow-up as needed arises

### **Preventive and control measures**

- Abstinence
- Fidelity
- Correct and consistent use of condom
- Screening for UDS
- Early treatment of urethral discharge

**To treat for gonococcal infection, use**

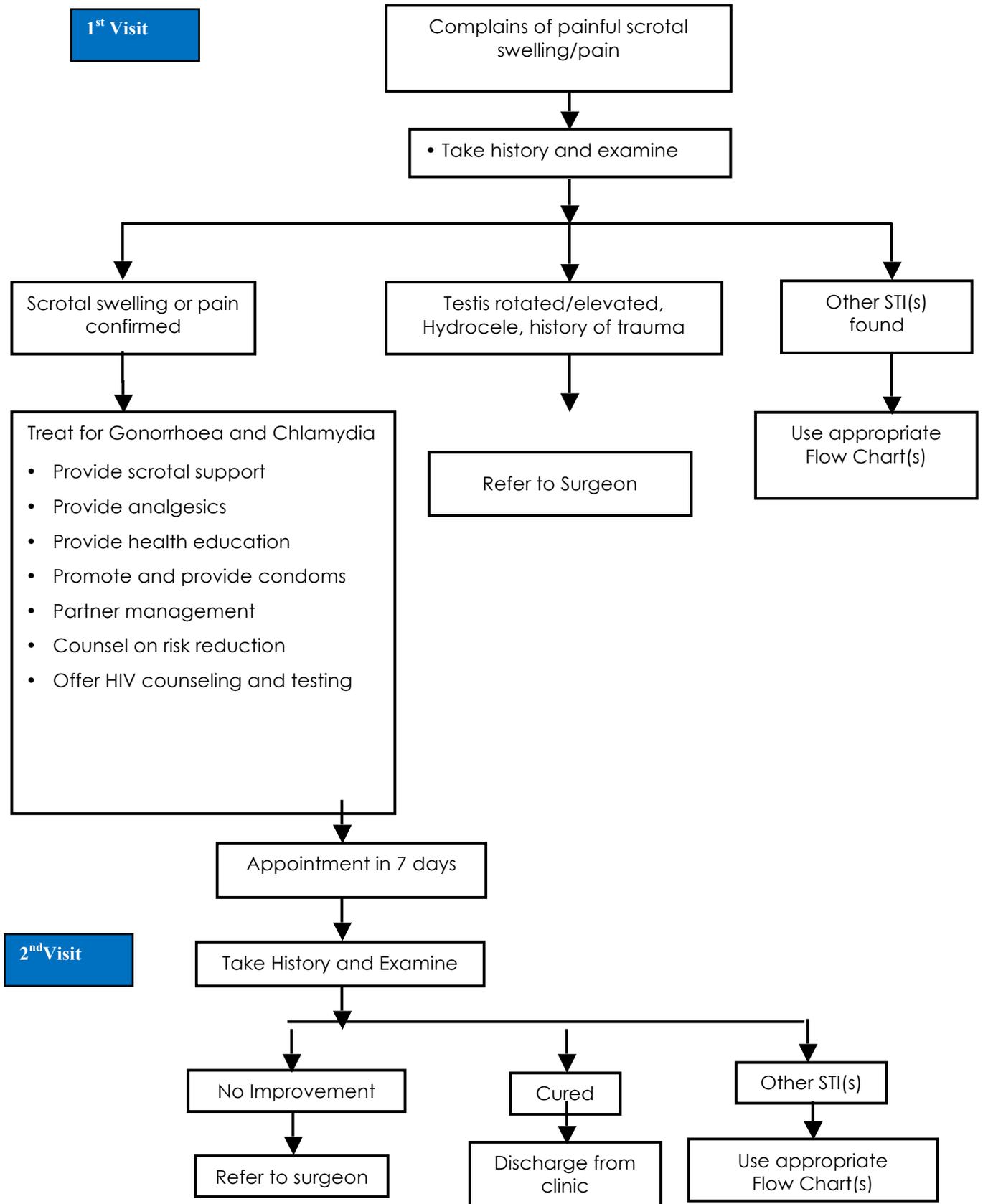
**Ceftriaxone, 250 mg by intramuscular injection as a single dose PLUS**

**To treat for chlamydial infection, use**

**Doxycycline, 100 mg orally, twice daily for 10 days**

***Supportive therapy:*** bed rest, antipyretics and analgesics, and scrotal support until local inflammation and fever subside.

### FlowChart4:ManagementofPainfulScrotalSwelling(PSS)



## Anorectal syndrome (ARS)

### Definition:

It may present as an ulcer, proctitis and rectal discharge.

### Aetiologies

The most common sexually transmitted pathogens which cause ARS are *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *treponema pallidum* and *herpes simplex*.

### Signs and symptoms

Proctitis may be acute or chronic. In acute proctitis: pain, tenesmus, mucopurulent anal discharge, anorectal bleeding, constipation, sensation of rectal fullness or of incomplete defecation, perianal pain or discomfort. In chronic proctitis due to LGV: history of mucus-streaking of the stool, constipation and feeling of incomplete defecation.

In patients with gonococcal and chlamydial proctitis, anoscopic examination may reveal the presence of mucopus in the rectum, rectal mucosal oedema and contact bleeding. In patients with syphilis-, herpes- and LGV-related proctitis, rectal ulceration can be seen. Granulomatous inflammatory masses also may be seen in LGV.

### Treatment

If anal ulcers are found, patients should be offered treatment for HSV-2 infection, and also for chlamydial infection and gonorrhoea. In the event of anal discharge accompanied with pain, treatment for HSV-2 must be offered. If no pain is present, then chlamydial infection and gonorrhoea should be considered as the potential causes and appropriate treatment offered.

#### To treat for gonococcal rectal infection, use

**Ceftriaxone**, 250 mg by intramuscular injection as a single dose **OR Cefixime**, 400 mg orally as a single dose

#### To treat for chlamydial rectal infection, use

**Doxycycline**, 100 mg orally, twice daily for 7 days **OR Azithromycin**, 1 g orally in a single dose

#### To treat for herpetic proctitis, use

**Acyclovir**, 400 mg orally, 3 times daily for 7 days **OR Acyclovir**, 200 mg orally, 5 times daily for 7 days **OR Valaciclovir**, 1 g orally, twice daily for 7 days **OR Famciclovir**, 250 mg orally, 3 times daily for 7 days

#### To treat for proctitis due to syphilis, use

**Benzathinebenzylpenicillin G**, 2.4 million Iu by intramuscular injection as a single dose

**OR Azithromycin**, 2 g orally as a single dose **OR Azithromycin**, 500 mg daily for 10 days **OR**

**Procaine benzylpenicillin**, 1.2 million units by intramuscular injection daily for 10 consecutive days

#### Alternative regimens for penicillin-allergic patients

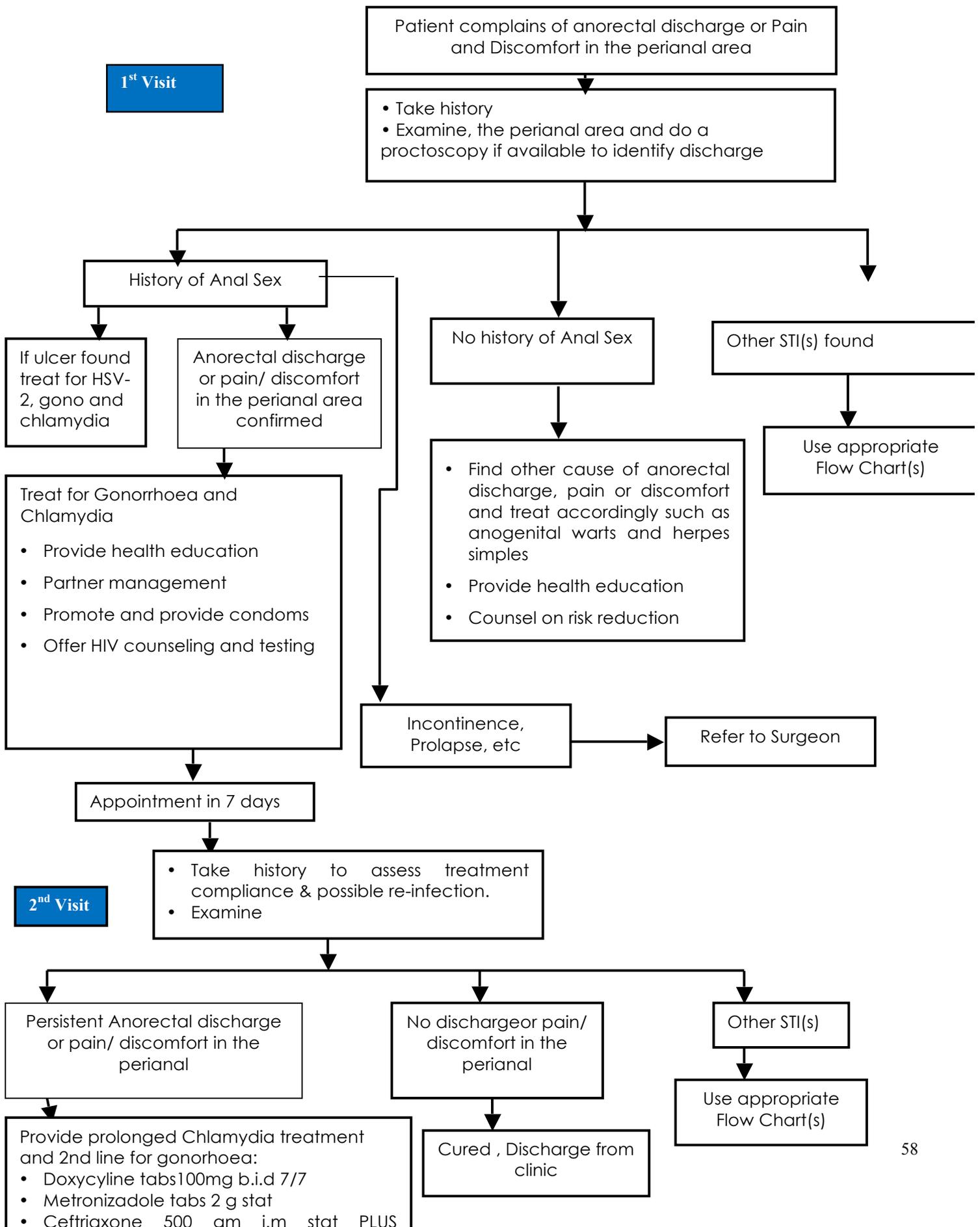
**Doxycycline**, 100 mg orally, twice daily for 14 days **OR Azithromycin**, 2 g orally as a single dose **OR Azithromycin**, 500 mg daily for 10 days

#### Alternative regimen for penicillin-allergic pregnant patients

**Erythromycin\***, 500 mg orally, 4 times daily for 14 days

\* Erythromycin base, ethyl succinate or stearate can be given. Erythromycin estolate is contraindicated in pregnancy.

## Flow Chart 5: Management of anorectal syndrome (ARS)



## **Oro-pharyngeal STIs**

### **Definition:**

Infections of the mouth and throat

**Risk factor:** Oral sex

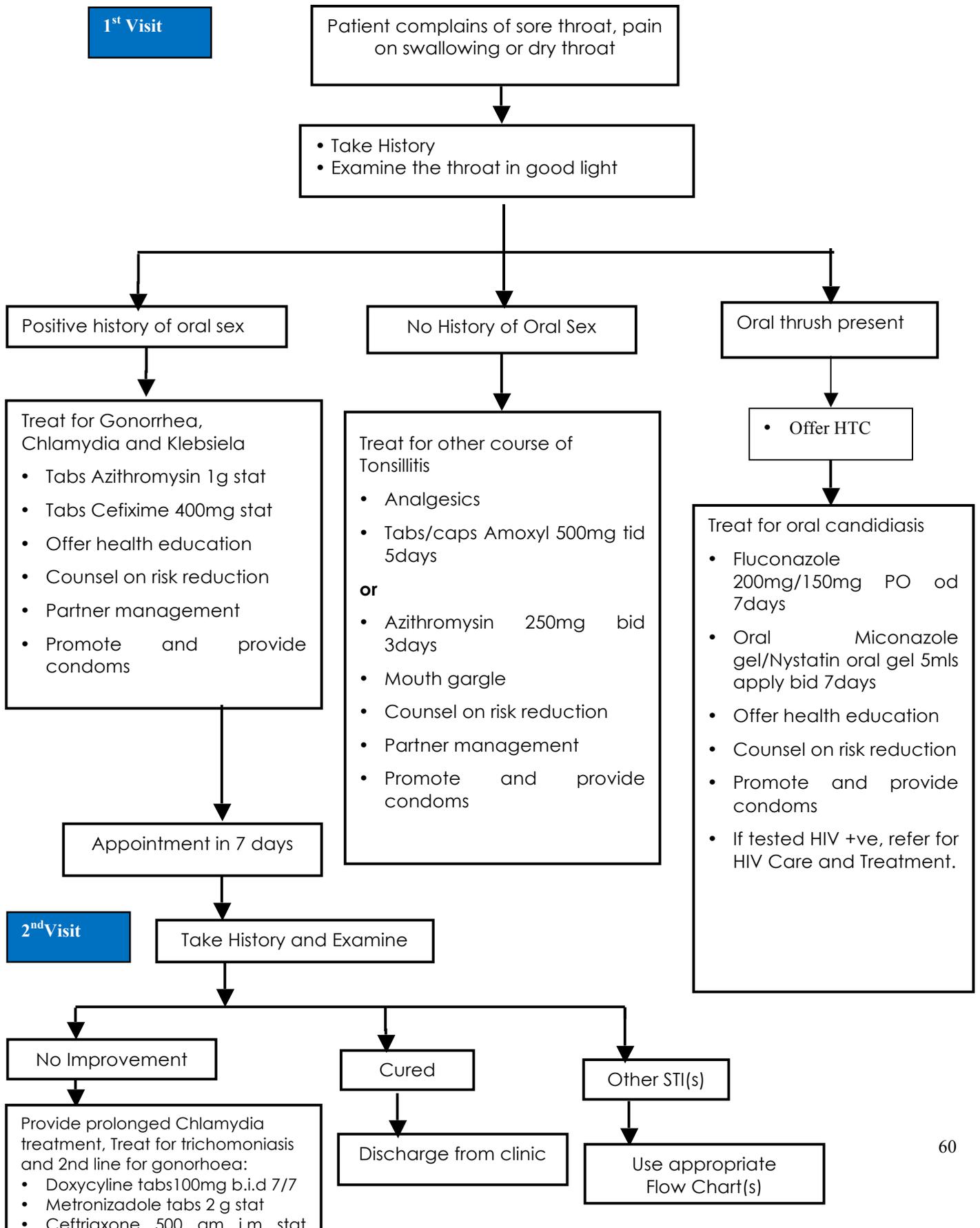
### **Aetiologies**

Human papillomavirus, herpes, gonorrhoea, warts.

### **Treatment for sexually-transmitted Pharyngitis**

- Cefixime, 400 mg orally stat (to treat gonococcal infection) PLUS
- Azithromycin, 1 g orally stat (to treat chlamydial infection)

**Flow chart 6: Management of oropharyngeal syndrome**



## Neonatal conjunctivitis (NC)

### Definition

It is an inflammation of the conjunctiva of a newborn baby (less than one month of age)

### Common symptoms and signs include:

Reddish conjunctiva, swelling/oedema of eyelids and purulent eye discharge

**NB.** Chlamydial pneumonia is a possibility.



Neonatal conjunctivitis

### Aetiology

Common organisms responsible are *Neisseria gonorrhoea* and *Chlamydia trachomatis*

### Common complications include:

Blindness and chlamydial pneumonia

### Management

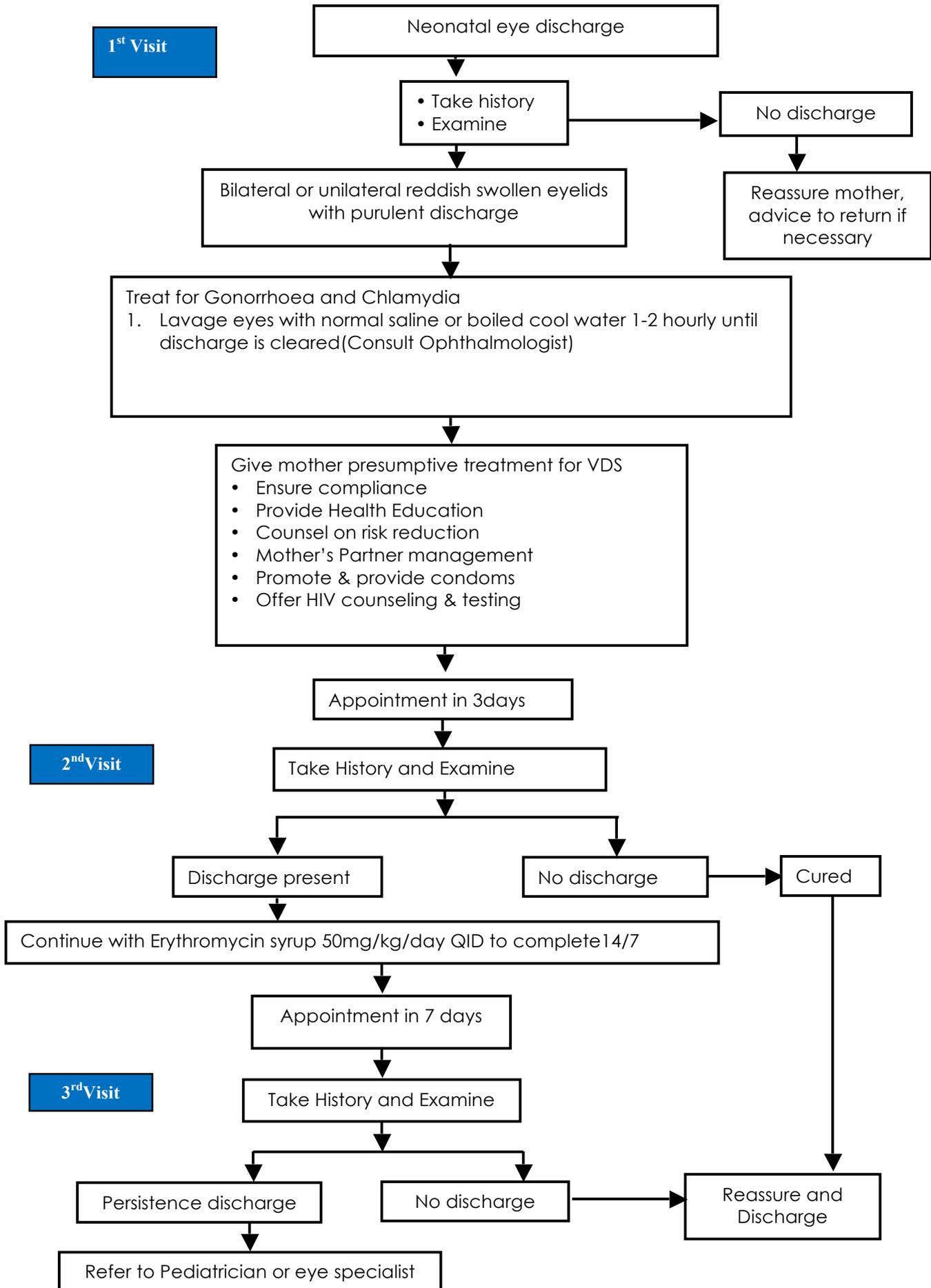
- Take history of the neonate
- Proper physical examination
- Treat neonate according to appropriate flowchart
- Educate mother on the importance of drug compliance
- Initiate contact referral (mother and her sexual partners)
- Provide health education
- Counsel the mother
- Offer PITC to the mother and her partner or refer
- Advise to return after 3 days for follow-up or early as the need arises

### Preventive and control measures

- Screening of pregnant mothers for VDS
- Early treatment of VDS in pregnant women
- Routine eye chemoprophylaxis for all newborns immediately after providing 0.1% of tetracycline eye ointment

birth by

**FlowChart7:ManagementofNeonatalConjunctivitis(NC)**



## Genitalulcerdisease(GUD)

### Definition

Itisalossofskinormucousmembranecontinuityproducing oneormore lesionsingenitalia

### Commonsymptomsinclude:

Genitalulcerationsthatmaybepainful or painlessometimesaccompaniedwith lymphadenopathy. Someoftheselesionsare purulentanddirty,whileothershaverough edges.Painfulcoitusandpainfulmicturition

### Aetiologies

Commonorganismsresponsibleare Treponema pallidum, Haemophilusducreyi, Chlamydia trachomatis, Herpes simplex type 2, Klebsiella granulomas

### Commoncomplicationsinclude:

Congenitalsyphilis,Inguinalbubo,urethral fistulainmales,phimosisandparaphimosis.

### Management

- Takehistory
- Properphysicalexamination
- Treataccordingtoappropriateflow chart
- Educateonimportanceofdrug compliance
- Providehealtheducation
- Recordnumber ofcontactsand initiate contactreferral
- Promoteandprovidecondoms
- OfferPITCorrefer
- Advisetoreturnafter7daysorearlyastheneedarises

### Preventivemeasures

- Abstinence
- Fidelity
- Correctandconsistentuseofcondom
- ScreeningforSTI/RTI
- Medicinecompliance
- Partnernotificationadmanagement
- Healtheducation

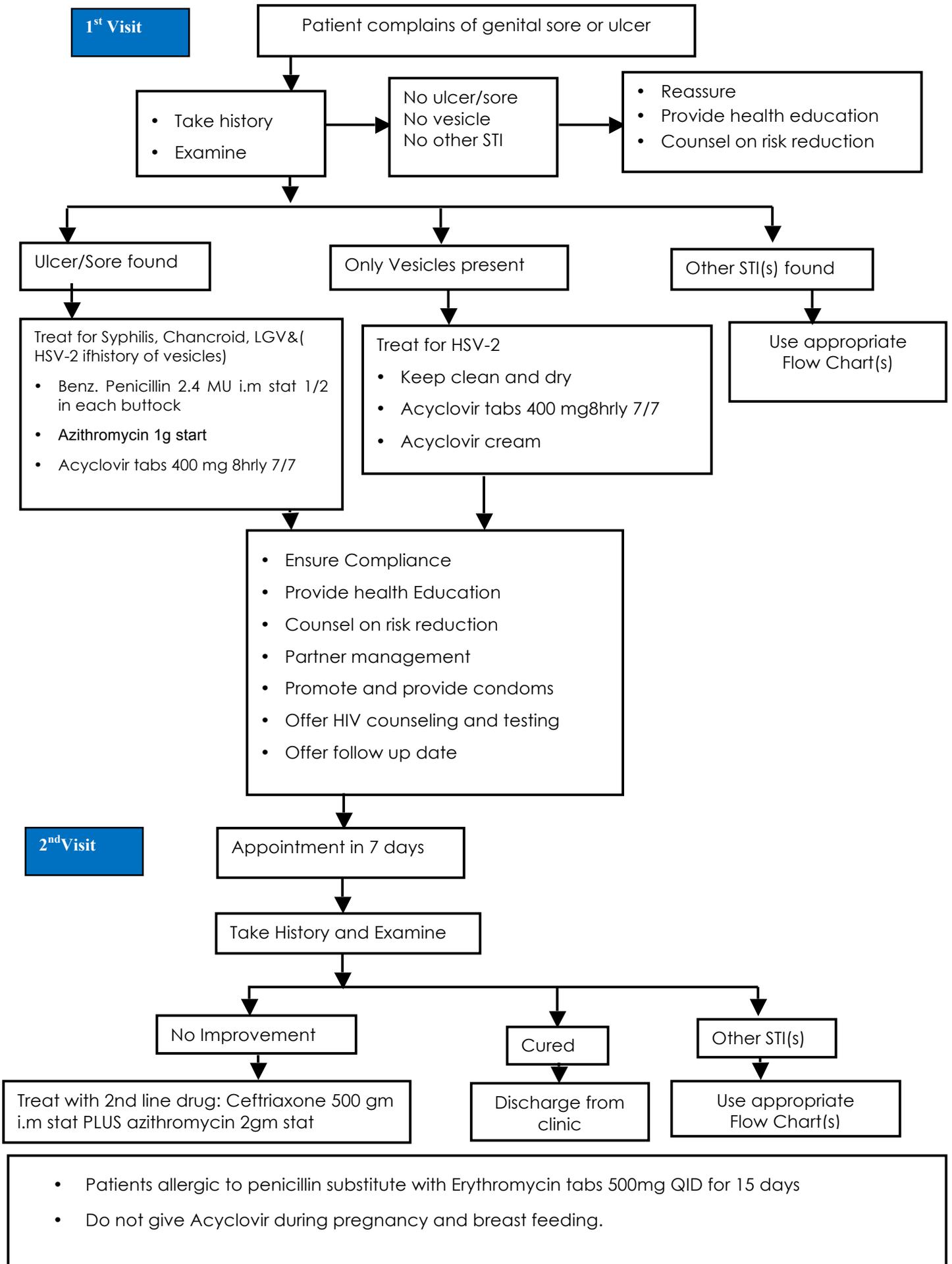


Penile ulcer



Multiplegenitalulcersinfemalepatient

**FlowChart8:ManagementofGenitalUlcerDisease(GUD)**



## **Inguinalbubo(IB)**

### **Definition**

Itisapainfulswellingoftheinguinallymphnodes andusuallywithpus formation.

### **Commonsymptomsandsignsinclude:**

Swellingofinguinallymphnodesoften fluctuant,fever,painandtenderness

### **Aetiologies**

Common organismsresponsibleare Chlamydiatrachomatis andHaemophilusducreyi.

**NB:**Sometimesinfectionsin thelower limbsmaycauseswellingof inguinallymph nodes.

### **Commoncomplicationsinclude:**

Chroniculcers,fistula/sinusformation,scar formation andgenitalelephantoidswelling.

### **Management**

- Takehistory
- Properphysicalexamination
- IftheBubo becomesfluctuantaspirate throughnormalskin
- Treataccordingtoappropriateflowchart.
- Educateontheimportanceofdrug compliance
- Providehealtheducation
- Counsel
- Record numberofcontactsandinitiate contactreferral
- Promoteandprovidecondoms
- OfferPITCorrefer



Rightinguinal buboinamalepatient

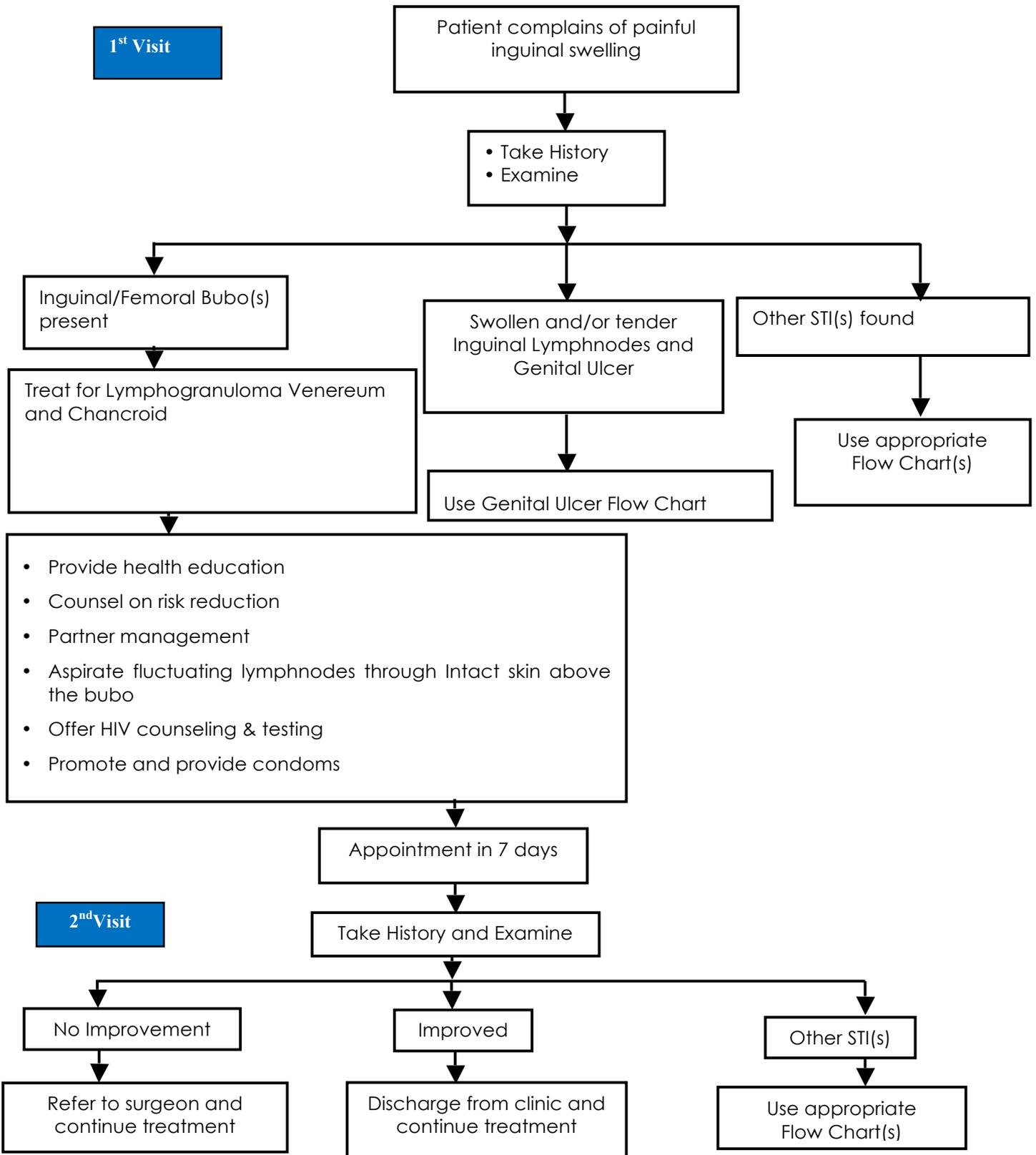


“Groovesign” oflymphogranuloma venereum

## **Preventiveandcontrolmeasures**

- Abstinence
- Fidelity
- Correctlyandconsistentlyuseofcondom
- Earlytreatment
- Screening
- Partnernotificationandmanagement
- Healtheducation

**FlowChart9:ManagementofInguinalBubo(IB)**



• Do not incise the BUBO.

## Management of mixed infections

Mixed STIs	Drug treatment (new episode)
UDS + SSS	Ceftriaxone, 250mg IM stat + Azithromycin, 1 g orally per week for 2 weeks + Metronidazole, 2g orally stat + Supportive therapy: to reduce pain advice bed rest, scrotal elevation with a scrotal support (T-bandage) and analgesics
UDS + Balanitis	Cefixime, 400mg orally stat / Ceftriaxone, 250 mg IM stat + Azithromycin 1 g orally stat / Doxycycline, 100mg orally BID for 7 days + Metronidazole, 2g orally stat + Clotrimazole cream, local application BID for 7 days
UDS + GUD	Cefixime, 400mg orally stat / Ceftriaxone, 250mg IM stat + Acyclovir, 400mg orally TDS for 7days + Benzathine Penicillin*, 2.4 MUIM stat + Azithromycin, 1 g orally stat / Doxycycline*,100mg orally BID for 7 days + Metronidazole, 2 g orally stat
VDS + LAP	Ceftriaxone, 250mg IM stat + Azithromycin, 1g orally per week for 2 weeks+ Metronidazole, 400mg orally BID for 7-14 days. Clotrimazole pessary to be added, if vulvaloedema, itching, excoriations or curd-like discharge present
VDS + GUD (non-pregnant)	Cefixime, 400mg stat / Ceftriaxone, 250mg IM stat + Metronidazole, 2g orally stat + Benzathine Penicillin*, 2.4 MUIM stat+ Azithromycin, 1g orally stat / Doxycycline*, 100mg orally BID for 7 days + Acyclovir, 400mg orally TDS for 7 days. Clotrimazole pessary to be added, if vulvaloedema, itching, excoriations or curd-like discharge present
VDS + GUD (pregnant, breastfeeding)	Cefixime, 400mg stat / Ceftriaxone, 250mg IM stat + Metronidazole, 2g orally stat + Benzathine Penicillin*, 2.4 MU IM stat + Azithromycin 1g orally stat / Erythromycin*, 500mg orally QID for 7 days + Acyclovir, 400mg orally TDS for 7 days. Clotrimazole pessary to be added, if vulvaloedema, itching, excoriations or curd-like discharge present
LAP + GUD	Ceftriaxone, 250mg IM stat + Metronidazole, 400 mg orally BID for 7-14 days + Benzathine Penicillin*, 2.4 MUIM stat+ Azithromycin, 1g orally per week for 2 weeks / Doxycycline*, 100 mg orally BID for 7-14 days + Acyclovir, 400 mg orally TDS for 7 days
SSS + GUD	Ceftriaxone, 250 mg IM stat + Benzathine Penicillin*, 2.4 MU IM stat + Azithromycin, 1g orally per week for 2 weeks/ Doxycycline*, 100 mg orally BID for 7-14 days + Acyclovir, 400 mg orally TDS for 7 days
* In Penicillin-allergic patients: Give Doxycycline (non-pregnant women/men) or Erythromycin (pregnant women) for 14 days instead of 7 days	

## Management of other STI conditions

### Genital Warts

#### Definition

Painless growths on genital skin or mucous membrane caused by the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) which is predominantly sexually transmitted

#### Clinical Presentation

- Painless growths often occur in moist mucocutaneous areas of genitalia and anus (may be fungating)
- May be hidden in inner parts of genitalia
- e.g. urethra, vagina or anus

#### Chemical Treatment

- Patient applied Podophyllotoxin 0.5% solution/gel  
OR
- Patient applied Imiquimod 5% cream  
OR
- Provider applied Podophyllin in compound tincture of benzoin  
OR
- Trichloroacetic acid (TCA) 80-90%

**NB:** For cervical and vaginal warts keep speculum until the drug has dried out

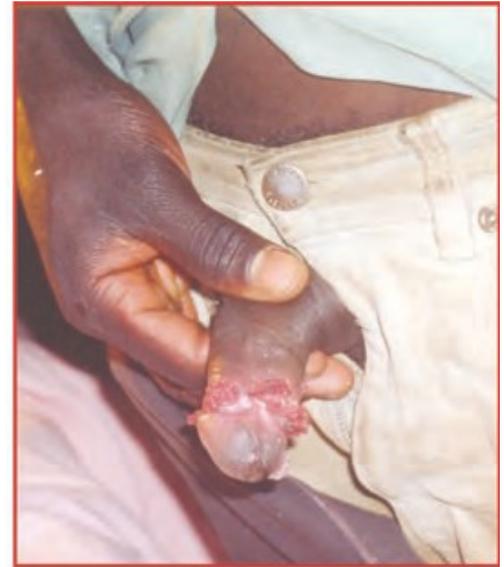
#### Physical treatment

- Cryotherapy with liquid nitrogen  
OR
- Electrosurgery  
OR
- Surgical removal

#### Complications

- Cancer of cervix
- Penile cancer

**NB:** During pregnancy it is safer for the baby to be delivered by caesarian section



Penile warts



Genital warts in female patient

## **Balanoposthitis**

### **Definition&Aetiology**

- Inflammationinvolvingtheglandspenisandforeskin(prepuce)
- Notsexuallytransmitted–commonlycausedbyCandidaalbicans
- AssociatedwithimmunosuppressionoruncontrolledDiabetes mellitus
- Morecommoninuncircumcisedwithpoorhygiene

### **Treatment**

Advisetowashwithsoapandsafewaterandapply

- Gentianviolet0.5%twicedailyfor7days
- OR
- Clotrimazole1%cream,twicedailyfor7days
- OR
- Miconazole2%creamtwicedailyfor7days
- OR
- Nystatincream,twicedailyfor7days

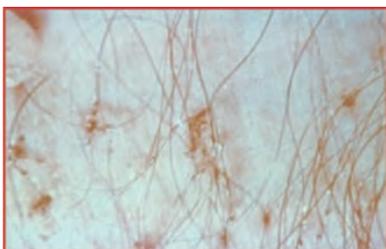
## **Pediculosis**

### **Definition,AetiologyandClinicalPresentation**

- PediculosisisaskininfestationbythelousePhthiruspubistransmitted throughintimatecontacte.g.duringsexualintercourse
- Commonlyaffectsthepubisandrarelytheeyelashes
- Patientpresentwithpruritus
- Typicalliceandeggsseenonpubichairand/oreyelashes

### **PreventionandTreatment**

- Basicpreventioniskeeping personalbodyhygiene
- Treatmentincludes
  - Shavingandwashingwithwater andsoapfollowedbytopical applicationofoneof:Lindane1%lotionorcream,Pyrethrinspluspeperonylbutoxide, Permethrin1%, BBE
  - Washingandironingofclothesandbedlinen



Genital pediculosis showing lice and nits

## Scabies

### Definition, Aetiology and Clinical Presentation

- Scabies is a skin infestation caused by a mite *Sarcoptes scabiei* acquired through skin-to-skin contact e.g. during sexual intercourse
- Closely associated with poor hygiene and overcrowding
- Patient presents with a pruritic erythematous skin rash
- Secondary bacterial infection and eczema are common

### Prevention and Treatment

- Body washing with soap and water followed by application of one of:
  - Benzyl benzoate emulsion (BBE)
  - Gamma benzene hexachloride
  - Crotonitron
- Prevention is mainly by:
  - Personal hygiene
  - Environmental hygiene in congregated settings
  - Treatment of sexual contacts

**NB:** Further management of these conditions is discussed on chapter 8 on page 115 to 119 in the National guideline

STIs/RTIs



Scabies on the hand

### Management of STIs/RTIs among the key populations

Key populations such sex workers, men who have sex with men (MSM), people who inject drugs are at a higher risk of acquiring STIs compared to the general population due to their high risk behaviors. For example, among MSM, STIs' most common symptoms and signs besides genitourinary manifestations include rectal infections. Clinical assessments should also focus on anorectal signs and symptoms of chlamydial infection and gonorrhea.

Management of STIs among key populations is similar as that of the general population. Please see the management of various STIs as outlined above.

## Chapter 8: Sexual violence/Abuse

Sexual violence/abuse poses a public concern, as it is associated with many risks such as unwanted pregnancy, stigma, acquisition of STI/RTI/HIV as well as physical and psychological trauma to both survivors and families.

Sexual abuse happens to both males and females particularly in children and the youth. The service provider needs to be prepared to diagnose symptoms of sexual abuse, provide both medical and psychological care.

Sexual abuse is a broad subject but for the purpose of medical care and in particular dealing with STIs/RTIs/HIV this document will focus mainly on rape

### Definition of rape

Rape is defined as the use of physical and/or emotional coercion, or threat to use coercion, in order to penetrate a child, adolescent, or adult vaginally, orally, or anally against their/his wishes.

### Type of rape

#### There are many types of rape including

- Acquaintance rape – when the survivor knows the assailant
- Marital rape – when one spouse forces the other to have sexual intercourse.
- Stranger rape – when the person who is attacked does not know the attacker.
- Gang rape – when two or more people sexually assault another person.
- Incest rape – when a person is raped by his or her own relative.

### Why is rape a health problem?

Rape can impact a survivor's health through:

- Laceration and internal injuries
- Unwanted pregnancy and its consequences (unsafe abortion, bad pregnant outcome, etc)
- STI/RTI including HIV
- Abortion-related injuries
- Gynaecological problems
- Sexual dysfunction
- Psychological trauma
- Rape can also cause fear, depression and suicide

### What you need to remember

- Rape acts are so common and frequently happen but they are seldom reported
- Survivors of rape may need shelter and legal protection
- In most instances the assailant is a member of immediate family or a relative or someone well known to the survivor
- In addition to medical and psychological care, the survivor may need emergency contraception and STI/RTI/HIV prophylaxis
- The family members may need psychological care

### What you should do

- Ensure your facility has the capacity to provide essential and basic services to the survivors of rapes such as care for any injury, evaluation of STI/RTI/HIV, collection of forensic evidence, evaluation of pregnancy or referral
- Perform initial assessment after obtaining informed consent. This will include taking history and doing physical examination
- Collect and document forensic evidence such as date and time of rape, patient statement, and result of clinical examination
- Manage injuries sustained in the assault and provide counseling to both survivors and family members
- Offer emergency contraception, presumptive treatment for STIs/RTIs and post-exposure prophylaxis for HIV (PEP) as per treatment algorithm.
- Refer to appropriate health facility for subsequent management if necessary e.g. for forensic examination or specialized treatment
- Arrange for follow-up care of the survivor and significant others

**Treatment table 8.1 STI presumptive treatment options for adults**

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
<b>Coverage</b>	All single dose, highly effective. Choose one from each box (= 3 or 4 drugs) <sup>a</sup>	Effective substitutes – possible resistance in some areas, or require multiple dosage	<b>If patient is pregnant, breastfeeding or under 16 year old</b> Choose one from each box (= 3 or 4 drugs) <sup>a</sup>
<b>Syphilis</b>	<b>benzathine penicillin</b> 2.4 Mega units by IM injection	<b>doxycycline</b> <sup>c</sup> 100 mg orally twice a day for 14 days (in case of penicillin allergy only)	<b>benzathine penicillin</b> 2.4 MU by single IM injection
<b>Gonorrhoea/ Chancroid</b>	<b>cefixime</b> 400 mg orally as a single dose, or <b>ceftriaxone</b> 125 mg IM	Cefixime 400mg as a single dose, or <b>spectinomycin</b> 2g by IM	<b>cefixime</b> 400 mg orally as a single dose, or <b>ceftriaxone</b> 1 gm stat IM
<b>Chlamydia/ lymphogranuloma venereum</b>	<b>azithromycin</b> 1g orally as single dose	<b>doxycycline</b> <sup>c</sup> 100 mg orally twice a day for 7 days, or <b>tetracycline</b> 500 mg orally 4 times a day for 7 days	<b>azithromycin</b> 1g orally as single dose, or <b>erythromycin</b> 500 mg orally 4 times a day for 7 days
<b>Trichomoniasis</b>	<b>metronidazole</b> 2g orally as a single dose	<b>tinidazole</b> <sup>e</sup> 2 g orally as a single dose	<b>metronidazole</b> <sup>b</sup> 2g orally as a single dose, or 400–500 mg 3 times a day for 7 days

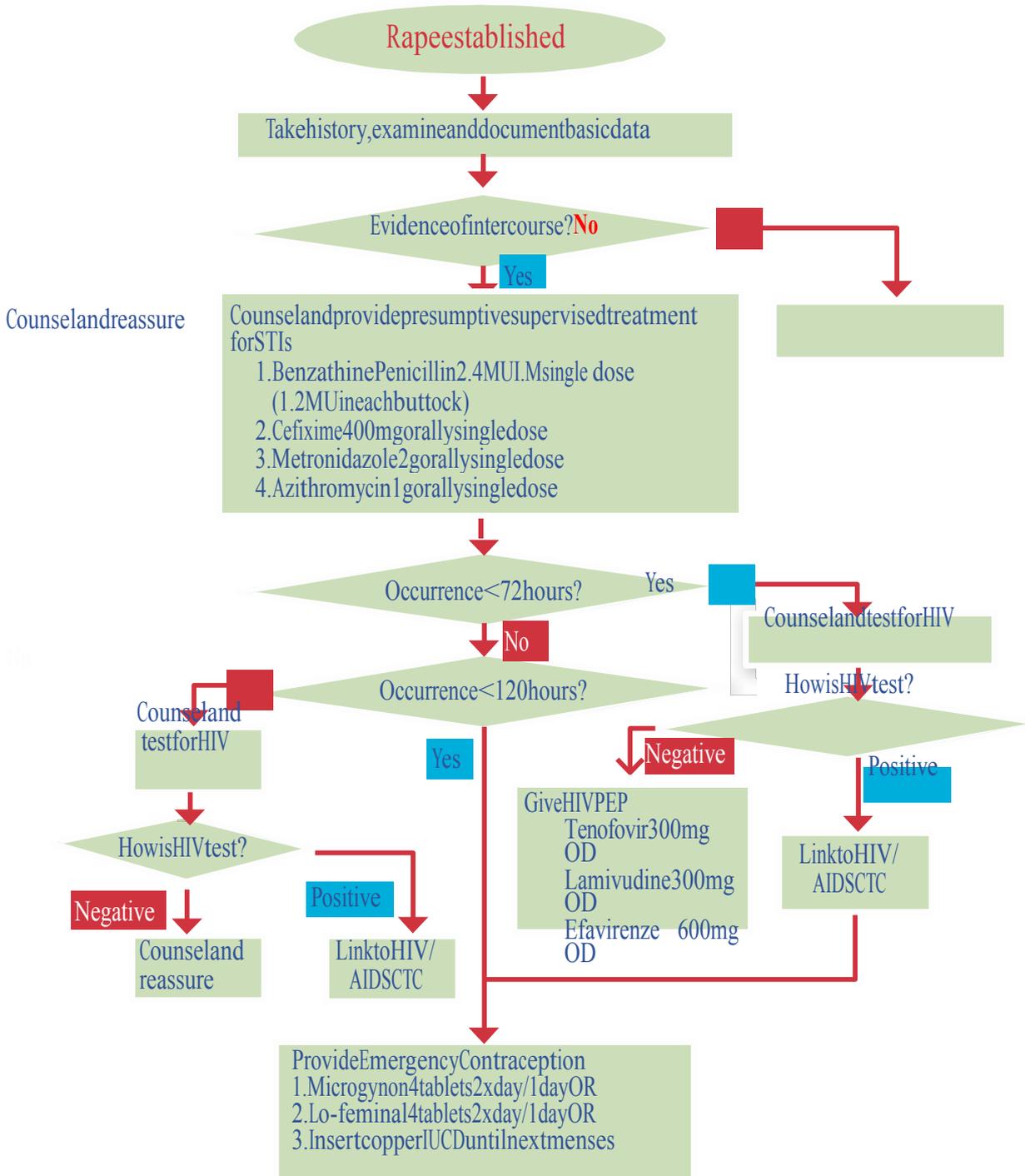
- Benzathine penicillin can be omitted if treatment includes either azithromycin 1 g or 14 days of

- doxycycline, tetracycline or erythromycin, all of which are effective against incubating syphilis.
- Metronidazole should be avoided in the first trimester of pregnancy. Patients taking metronidazole should be cautioned to avoid alcohol.
- These drugs are contraindicated for pregnant or breastfeeding women.
- The use of quinolones should take into consideration the patterns of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* resistance.
- Patients taking tinidazole should be cautioned to avoid alcohol.

**Treatment table 10.2. STI presumptive treatment options for children**

<b>Coverage</b>	All single-dose antibiotics are highly effective. Choose one from each box (= 3 or 4 drugs)	Older children and adolescents
<b>Syphilis</b>	<b>benzathine penicillin</b> 50,000 units/kg of body weight by single IM, or <b>erythromycin</b> 12.5 mg/kg of body weight orally 4 times a day for 14 days	>45 kg, use adult protocol
<b>Gonorrhoea/ chancroid</b>	<b>cefixime</b> 8 mg/kg of body weight as a single dose, or <b>ceftriaxone</b> 125 mg by intramuscular injection, or <b>spectinomycin</b> 40 mg/kg of body weight (maximum 2 g) by intramuscular injection	>45 kg, use adult protocol
<b>Chlamydia/ lymphogranuloma venereum</b>	<b>erythromycin</b> 12.5 mg/kg of body weight orally 4 times a day for 7 days	12 years or older, use adult protocol
<b>Trichomoniasis</b>	<b>metronidazole</b> 5 mg/kg of body weight orally 3 times a day for 7 days	12 years or older, use adult protocol

## FlowChart10: Clinical Management of Survivors of Rape



- Always treat injuries including provision of TT  
Advice for legal protection issues
- Psychological support (both at time of crisis and long-term)

- Immunization against Hepatitis B (1 and 6 months)
- Re-evaluate after 3 months (genital examination) HIV and syphilis testing)

## Chapter 9: Ordering Medicines, Laboratory Reagents and Supplies

### What is Ordering?

It is a process for requesting medicines, laboratory reagents and related supplies in order to provide services

### Why do you order?

You order to avoid interruption of service provision. Adequate availability of medicines, laboratory reagents and related STI/RTI supplies is an essential component in the management and control of STIs/RTIs. Management and control of STIs/RTIs is based on syndromes, however, laboratory still has a role depending on the setting and availability of resources. Laboratory investigation is essential in syphilis screening of pregnant women, screening for HIV, culture and sensitivity for admitted patients, Papanicolaou (PAP) smear for early detection of cervical cancer and research.

### What do you need to know before ordering?

Proper data collection and record keeping is a cornerstone in ordering medicines, laboratory reagents and related supplies. Data and record keeping will assist you to determine prevalence of syndromes, calculating monthly consumption and estimating minimum and maximum stock levels, it also helps in determining the buffer/security stock level for lead time. Orderings should be done timely to avoid stock out of medicine and other supplies

### What is the procedure for ordering?

Determine the need based on the available data, identify and fill the forms and forward according to laid down procedures

### What is the procedure for receiving and storage?

Receive the delivery note from the supplies, inspect the quantity and quality of delivered goods, raise goods received note (GRN), put received goods in

the store and sign GRN

and then enter goods into ledger and bin card.

### What is the procedure for issuing/dispensing?

Enter the total number of units dispensed/issued from the appropriate register, enter the total number of units removed from inventory for any reason other than dispensing, enter the total number received into the inventory for any reason other than delivered from MSD enter the total number of units removed from inventory to land and then enter the total number of units added/removed from inventory after item counting of the products

## Chapter 10: Monitoring and Evaluation

### Overview

Monitoring and evaluation is an essential component of quality of STIs/RTIs service delivery. The process involves recording using standardized tool, analysis and interpretation. It allows the program to follow the trends in STI/RTI outcomes, utilize the program data for strategic planning and re-direction of resources and report on key indicators.

### Definition of Terms

#### Monitoring:

A systematic recording and reporting of various steps and events in implementing an intervention

#### Evaluation:

The system of assessing the success or failure of an activity in order to ensure proper re-planning or implementation of activities

### Objectives for Monitoring and Evaluation of STI/RTI Services

- Provide essential information to the clinic service provider for easy follow up of clients and contact management.
- Provide essential information to the clinic service provider and supervisor about prevention and management of STI/RTI, testing requirement, drug consumption and demand.
- Assess the effectiveness of the programme through quantitative and qualitative methods.
- Improve the management of STI/RTI services as necessary and inform the policy-making decisions.
- Provide trends in STI outcomes and service statistics information that can be used for planning STI management services as well as STI prevention and control activities.

### Purpose for Monitoring STI/RTI Services

#### To determine whether:

- Work progresses according to schedule
- Standards are maintained
- Resources are used rationally, properly and as planned
- Required infrastructure is available and used

### Process of Monitoring STI Services

#### The process includes:

- Daily registering of STI clients attended at the health care facility using daily STI register
- Monthly compilation of the data captured in the daily STI register at the facility
- Monthly compilation of the report from each facility at district level

- Using information gathered to track trends, strengths and weaknesses.
- Using collected information to assist decision making and management.

### **Explain the Process of Reporting and Dissemination**

#### **To whom should the report be submitted:**

- The facility in charge compiles and summarises the data into the monthly summary form and this form is verified and collected by District Data Manager (DDM) by the 7<sup>th</sup> of next month.
  - First copy is collected by DDM for the DHMT
  - Second copy is sent to ZIHTLP
  - Third copy remains at the health facility
- At the district level, the DDM enters the facility STI monthly reports into DHIs and compiles it into the district monthly STI report. Once the data is in DHIS2, it can be accessed by not only the DMM, but also by Zonal Health Management Team, ZIHTLP and HMIS staff at MOH headquarters.

#### **When the report should be submitted**

- At facility level – monthly
- At district level – monthly

#### **Describe methods of data collection, analysis and presentation**

- Data collection is done manually or computerized where possible
- Analysis is done manually or by using software programme
- Presentation is done by graphs charts, oral, written reports.

**NB.** An STI/RTI service providers should be able to evaluate, process, analyse, make interpretation and use them

to collect data, keep records,

### **Process of Evaluating STI/RTI Services**

#### **Purpose**

- Determine whether the objectives were achieved
- Determine whether the services can be extended elsewhere

#### **When to conduct evaluation**

- Annually at the facility, district and regional levels
- Two yearly at the national level

#### **Aspects to Evaluate**

- Actual services delivery

- Occurrence of STI/RTI episodes
- Staff performance
- Adequacy of staffing levels
- Client satisfaction and response
- Material needs and allocation
- Techniques

### **Methods of Evaluating STI/RTI Services**

- Review of records
- Questionnaire
- Interviews
- Observations
- Focus group discussion
- Client exit interview

How to record and report information on STI/RTI information is available in the National Guideline chapter 11 on page 142 to 145.

## References:

1. Ministry of Health, Zanzibar Revolutionary Government Tanzania (2016): National Guideline for Management of Sexually Transmitted and Reproductive Tract Infections.
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3. Ministry of Health, Tanzania (2008): Sexually Transmitted and Reproductive Tract Infections: A Manual for Service Providers.
4. Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Tanzania, National AIDS Control Programme (2015): National Guidelines for the management of HIV and AIDS.
5. Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Tanzania (2013): National Comprehensive Guidelines for HIV Testing and Counseling.