



NWT Clinical Practice Information Notice

Upon receipt, please file this notice in **Section C, Clinical Practice Information Binder** for future reference.

The following clinical practice has been approved for use in the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services system, and has been distributed to:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hospitals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Health Centres	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Homecare	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LTC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pharmacists
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Doctor's Offices		Social Services Offices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Health Units	Please list other(s):			

The information contained in this document is a Departmental:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clinical Standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protocol	<input type="checkbox"/>	Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clinical Practice Guideline
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Title: [LOST TO FOLLOW-UP OF STI CASES AND CONTACTS FLOW CHART - AMENDED 2023](#)

Effective Date: July 2023

CPI #180 supersedes CPI #157. All previous versions of NWT STI Lost-to-Follow-up guidelines must be discarded immediately and replaced with the referenced document.

Statement of Approved Clinical Practice:

The referenced guidelines for [Routine Follow-up of STI Cases and Contacts Lost to Follow-up Flow Chart](#) are based on the [Canadian Guidelines on Sexually Transmitted Infections](#), published by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), as the approved standard reference for sexually transmitted infections in the NWT.

Updates to the previous version of the Guidelines include:

- HIV cases and contacts that cannot be located must immediately be flagged to the OCPHO for further direction. ALL HIV cases/contacts must remain open unless otherwise directed by the OCPHO.
- Syphilis cases and contacts must remain open until 12 months post diagnoses date for cases or the last known exposure for contacts.
- Syphilis cases and contacts cannot be removed from public health follow-up list until HCP reports to the OCPHO by filling out the **updated** [Syphilis Lost-to-Follow-up Report Form](#) and either faxing to the secure medical fax (867-873-0442) or SFT to CDCU@gov.nt.ca. All other methods of reporting will not be considered reporting to the OCPHO.

Healthcare providers have the flexibility to follow-up according to their professional judgment and may close chlamydia or gonorrhoea investigations after 2 months, but syphilis investigations must be reported to the OCPHO after 12 months of attempted contact has passed before the investigation can be closed. Information received after the "lost to follow-up" designation should be reviewed and dealt with on a case by case basis.

Reference:

- Routine Follow-up of STI Cases and Contacts Lost to Follow-up Flow Chart
<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/professionals/sites/default/files/routine-follow-up-sti-cases-contacts.pdf>
- Syphilis Lost-to-Follow-up Report Form
<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/professionals/en/syphilis-hiv-lost-follow-report-form>

An electronic copy of this notice is also available on the Department of Health and Social Services public website at: <http://www.professionals.hss.gov.nt.ca/document-categories/clinical-practice-information-notices>.

This clinical practice is approved. _____.

Minister Deputy Minister Assistant Deputy Minister Chief Public Health Officer