SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC HEALTH





VOLUME 6, ISSUE 5

MAY 2014

STDs—Prevention is Key

Whether you call them sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) or sexually transmitted infections (STIs), protecting yourself from chlamydia, syphilis, gonorrhea, HIV, HPV and other sexually transmitted diseases starts with knowing the facts and taking the steps needed to prevent STDs.

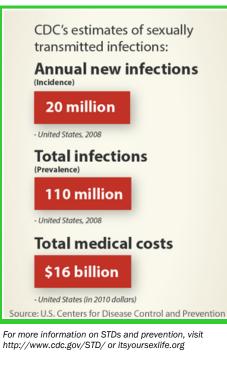
Get the facts.

- Every year there are around 20 million new STD cases in the U.S. and nearly half of these cases are among young people aged 15-24.
- More than 50% of sexually active people will get HPV at some point during their lives.
- 1 in 5 people living with HIV in the U.S. doesn't know they are positive.
- ☑ **Talk to your partner**. It's important to talk with your partner about STDs and safe sex before you have sex.
- Get tested. It's important to know if you have an infection - to make sure it is treated quickly and to avoid spreading it to others.
- Reduced number or partners. Reducing your number of sex partners can decrease your risk for STDs.
- ☑ **Use condoms**. Use a condom correctly every time in order to reduce the chance of passing on or getting an STD.

Get vaccinated. There is a safe and effective vaccine to help prevent the spread of HPV. The vaccine can also help protect against cervical cancer.

The good news is many STDs are curable and all of them are treatable.

It's your body: Know yourself. Know your status. Get yourself tested.



HPV Vaccine-Q&A

>> What is HPV?

HPV (human papillomavirus) is a common virus that is easily spread by skin-to-skin contact during sexual activity with another person. Certain HPV types cause most cases of genital warts in men and women and can cause various types of cancer. HPV is the main cause of cervical cancer in women.

>> Is HPV vaccine safe and effective?

There are two HPV vaccines (Cervarix and Gardasil) and both are safe and effective against diseases caused by HPV. Both vaccines are given as a series of 3 shots.

>> Who should get HPV vaccine?

Both HPV vaccines are safe and effective for females 9-26 years of age. The CDC recommends that all 11 or 12 year old girls get the 3 doses to protect against cervical cancer. The Gardasil vaccine is also safe and effective for males 9-26 years of age. The CDC recommends Gardasil for all boys aged 11 or 12 years and for males aged 13 through 21 years who did not get any or all of the HPV vaccine when they were younger. Cervarix cannot be given to males.

>> Can HPV vaccines treat HPV infections, cancer or warts?

No, HPV vaccines will not treat or get rid of existing infections and do not treat or cure health problems caused by a previous HPV infection.

Know yourself. Know your status. Get Yourself Tested.

Getting tested for STDs isn't as hard as you would think and services are available right here in Scott County. The Scott County Health Department offers a walk-in STD Clinic for Scott County residents that meet criteria for the clinic. Clinic staff consists of five nurse clinicians, one laboratory specialist, and one community health intervention specialist. Services available include confidential testing and treatment of STDs and confidential follow-up of sexual partners for appropriate testing and treatment. A \$10 donation will be requested at the time of the visit to the clinic.

Scott County Health Department STD/HIV Clinic

Hours:	Tuesdays–1:00pm–4:00pm; Fridays–8:00am-11:30am
Location:	Scott County Administrative Center, 4th Floor
	600 W. 4th Street,
	Davenport, Iowa 52801
Phone:	(563) 326-8618

OUR MISSION:

The Scott County Health Department is committed to promoting, protecting and preserving the health of the community by providing leadership and direction as advocates for the individual, the family, the community and the environment we serve.

OUR VISION:

As recognized and respected leaders in serving and protecting our citizens, we at the Scott County Health Department are committed to a safer, healthier community and environment. In so doing, we provide a multitude of services with Professionalism, Responsiveness, Involvement, Dedication, and Excellence.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- Scott County Board of Health Meeting, Scott County Administrative Center, 1st Floor Boardroom, 12:00 PM Thursday, May 15, 2014.
- Scott County Health Department will be closed Monday, May 26, 2014 in observation of Memorial Day.

SCOTT COUNTY Health Depar<u>tment</u>

Scott County Administrative Center, 4th Floor 600 West 4th Street Davenport, Iowa 52801-1030 Phone: 563-326-8618 Fax: 563-326-8774 E-mail: <u>health@scottcountyiowa.com</u> Web site: <u>www.scottcountyiowa.com/health</u>





If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please subscribe to the Public Health Connection at <u>www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/</u> <u>connection</u> or email <u>health@scottcountyiowa.com</u> or call 563-326-8618.



