

# Refugee Health Microlearning Series: Sexually Transmitted Infections and Pregnancy Transcript

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## Slide 1

### Refugee Health Screening: Sexually Transmitted Infections and Pregnancy

- Hello and welcome to the micro-learning series presented by the Refugee Health Program at the Minnesota Department of Health. This series is meant to help providers, clinical teams, and public health better understand the best practices for refugee health screening. This video focuses on **Sexually Transmitted Infections and Pregnancy** screening guidance during refugee health assessments.

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### What you need to know

#### Who?

- All arrivals of reproductive age should be screened for STIs and pregnancy, if applicable.
- Providers should use their own discretion to also screen individuals in cases of sexual abuse, congenital syphilis, or other circumstances that might warrant screening.

#### What?

- Urine pregnancy tests should be performed for all women of childbearing age and pubescent adolescent girls.
- Family planning and available contraceptive methods, including accessibility, efficacy, and cost, should also be discussed.
- Arrivals 15 and older should be tested for syphilis unless there is a documented history of recent syphilis diagnosis and treatment overseas.
- Female arrivals younger than 25 years of age who are sexually active and do not have a documented pre-departure testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea should be screened for those STIs.
- Additional STI screening should be performed as indicated if an arrival is symptomatic.

#### When?

- STI and pregnancy screening should occur during the initial Refugee Health Screening and any findings should receive appropriate follow up.
- Urine pregnancy test should be repeated if the last unprotected intercourse was in the last 14 days and the patient has had no menses.
- Make sure there is a plan for ongoing access to contraception if desired.

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### Updates in Guidance

#### Is this different from previous MDH guidance?

- This guidance does not reflect any major changes in recommendations; however, there is more explicit guidance regarding pregnancy testing as well as testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea.

#### Is this different from national guidance?

- Minnesota recommends re-drawing syphilis tests for those with negative results overseas.
- Minnesota also has state-specific resources than are linked in the next few slides.

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### Report Screening Results

- As part of the paperwork for the Refugee Health Assessment that is submitted to the Refugee Health Program, there is a section where STI and pregnancy screening results can be recorded. Note that the pregnancy result section can be found under the “Other Health Conditions” section. There, you will also find a section to record breastfeeding status. Please make sure this section is being filled out appropriately.

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### Resources to learn more

- If you’re interested in learning more, please look at the full screening guidance and other resources outlined in this page.

## Slide 6

### Thank you

- The well-being of all Minnesotans, including those with refugee status, depends on the work and dedication of our partners. Thank you so much for your work.

Minnesota Department of Health  
Refugee Health Program  
PO Box 64975  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975  
651-201-5414  
[health.refugee@state.mn.us](mailto:health.refugee@state.mn.us)  
[www.health.state.mn.us](http://www.health.state.mn.us)

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