## POR PROVIDERS

## **STI Awareness Week**

**STI Awareness Week** is celebrated each April. It's an excellent opportunity to check out resources that can improve patient care at your practice. A great place to start is with a theme from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)—**Talk, Test, Treat.** 

talk



Your patients rely on your to start the conversation about sexual health. There are many resources available to help guide you, including <u>a tool to use when taking a sexual history</u> from the National Coalition for Sexual Health that includes questions to ask. Want to be more mindful about the language you use? Check out ASHA's <u>webinar and online modules on minimizing STI-related stigma</u> in healthcare settings.

test



Testing is prevention! There are now more ways than ever for your patients to get tested, including new <u>FDA-approved home testing</u> <u>options</u>. During STI Awareness Week, you can talk to all of your patients about recommended tests, explore <u>opt-out options</u>, and <u>review screening guidelines</u> for <u>all anatomical sites</u>.

treat



The CDC STI Treatment Guidelines are your go-to resource for evidence-based prevention, diagnostic and treatment recommendations. During STI Awareness Week, you can read up on <a href="Expedited Partner">Expedited Partner</a> Therapy (EPT) as an option when a patient's partner(s) may be unwilling or unable to access care and get up to date on the issue of <a href="mailto:drug-resistant-gonorrhea">drug-resistant-gonorrhea</a>.

## **Patient Education Materials**

Looking for free, printable resources on STIs for your patients? Visit ASHA's <u>publications</u> <u>site</u> for <u>fact sheets on a range of topics</u>, including new titles on <u>common bacterial</u> <u>STIs</u> and <u>preventing STIs with doxy PEP</u>. Well-educated patients are empowered to take charge of their sexual health.



