



Chlamydia Testing of Pregnancy Test-Seeking Clients in Family Planning Clinics in Washington State



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BACKGROUND

Women attending family planning (FP) clinics for pregnancy testing may be at increased risk for sexually transmitted infections. Emphasis for *Chlamydia* screening has been on preventive health examinations. Most clients presenting for pregnancy test visits in Washington FP clinics do not have a physical examination. Urine testing is the logical option for both pregnancy and *Chlamydia* screening.

OBJECTIVES

Describe *Chlamydia* screening for Title X females ages 14-24 having pregnancy test visits.

Demonstrate differences in *Chlamydia* positivity between routine FP visits and pregnancy test (PT) visits for females under age 25.

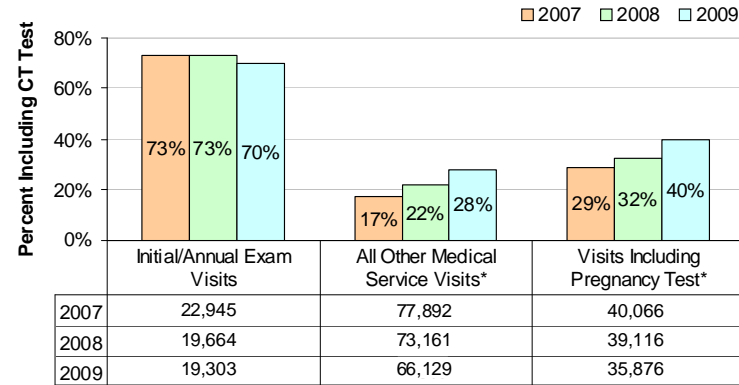
Identify new opportunities to conduct *Chlamydia* screening during PT visits.

METHODS

FP data were analyzed to determine the overall *Chlamydia* screening coverage and the proportion of visits with PT that also included a *Chlamydia* test in years 2007 through 2009. Infertility Prevention Project (IPP) *Chlamydia* testing data were used to calculate positivity for different populations. Positivity rates were compared for pregnant and non-pregnant clients, and pregnancy-related, routine, and STD screening visits among females under age 25 in FP clinics for the same period.

RESULTS

Percent of Visits From Title X Female Clients Ages 14-24 That Included a *Chlamydia* Test, by Visit Type, 2007-2009



* Trends significant at p<0.0001

Source: 2007-2009 WA State Title X data

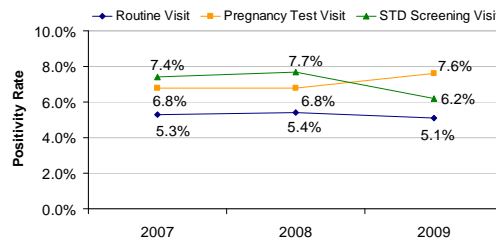
The proportion of Title X pregnancy test visits from females ages 14-24 that also included a *Chlamydia* test significantly increased from **29% in 2007** to **40% in 2009**.

The percent of other medical visits that included a *Chlamydia* test significantly increased from **17% in 2007** to **28% in 2009**. Approximately 70% of initial or annual exam visits from Title X females ages 14-24 included a *Chlamydia* test.

Chlamydia Screening Coverage

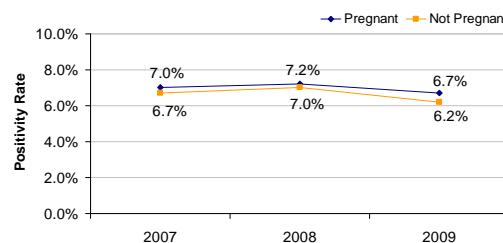
The percent of Title X females ages 14-24 who were tested for *Chlamydia* increased from **42% in 2007** to **53% in 2009** (p<0.0001); The coverage for those clients with pregnancy tests during the year increased from **42% in 2007** to **57% in 2009** (p<0.0001).

Chlamydia Positivity Rates by Type of Visit, 2007-2009



The positivity rate for PT visits increased from 2007 to 2009. In 2009, PT visits had a significantly higher positivity rate (**7.6%**) than routine (**5.1%**, p<0.0001) and STD screening visits (**6.2%**, p=0.03).

Chlamydia Positivity Rates by Pregnancy Status, 2007-2009



The positivity rate for pregnant women was consistently higher than non-pregnant women in years 2007 through 2009.

Source: 2007-2009 Infertility Prevention Project data; females ages 24 and under

CONCLUSIONS

Changes in FP program guidelines and laboratory technology make it feasible to conduct *Chlamydia* screening at brief medical encounters and pregnancy test visits. *Chlamydia* screening and pregnancy testing may be done on the same urine specimen. Infection rates are higher among PT clients and pregnant clients in Washington FP clinics, making them an important population to screen.

Chlamydia screening resources should be directed to include brief and pregnancy test visits.

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