

DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT #10 RECOGNIZES SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES AWARENESS MONTH

April 27, 2020- April is Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Awareness Month, and District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) is using this time to inform the public about the importance of testing for and preventing STDs.

STDs are common infections that are spread through sexual activity. Anyone who is sexually active is at risk for an STD. Because many people do not experience symptoms, the only way to know for sure if an individual is infected is to be tested.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

- There are 20 million new STD cases in the United States every year
- The medical costs for these new cases equal upwards of \$16 billion
- Adding these new STD cases each year to the existing infections, that's an estimated 110 million total STDs among Americans

“People with multiple sexual partners, those who think they may have been exposed to an STD, those who’ve had unprotected sex with a partner whose health status was unknown, or anyone who has symptoms of an STD should get tested,” said George Davis-Williams, Clinical Supervisor at DHD#10. “If you think you have an STD, don’t panic, make an appointment to get tested right away, and hold off on all sexual activity until you get tested.”

DHD#10 strives to empower people of all ages and genders to take control of their sexual health. Education services, birth control methods, counseling on fertility awareness, referrals for sterilization, STD testing and treatment, and exams, including Pap Smears and HIV testing, are available to our clients in ten counties including Crawford, Kalkaska, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Newaygo, Oceana, and Wexford.

DHD#10 services are confidential, LGBTQ friendly, and no one will ever be denied service due to inability to pay.

Due to COVID-19, DHD#10 offices are currently closed. However, that should not stop you from seeking testing elsewhere. If you are concerned you may have an STD, prompt testing is important as STDs can lead to serious health consequences, like infertility, if left untreated.

Learn more about DHD#10’s [sexual health services](#), and call to schedule an appointment for a later date at 888-217-3904, option #2.

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COUNTIES SERVED:

Crawford
Kalkaska
Lake
Manistee
Mason
Mecosta
Missaukee
Newaygo
Oceana
Wexford



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