

# IUSTI-NORTH AMERICA

## Message from the Regional Director

**Charlotte Gaydos, DrPH**  
Regional Director & Editor-in-Chief

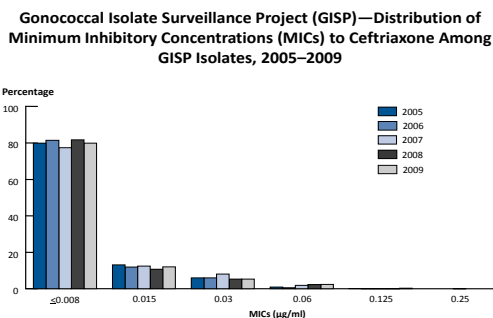
We look forward to seeing many IUSTI members at the 13th IUSTI World Congress, which is incorporating the Australasian Health Conference, in Melbourne October 14-17. We will plan to visit at the IUSTI Congress Gala Dinner, Wednesday, October 17, 7pm-11:30pm; Peninsula, Shed 14, Central Pier, 161 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands; dinner theme and dress: **"A Day at the Races"**

The American Sexually Transmitted Diseases Association (ASTDA), which is the North America Region of IUSTI, has new officers:

- ASTDA President: **Bradley Stoner, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor of Medicine and Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis.
- ASTDA President-elect: **Kees Rietmeijer, MD, PhD**, Rietmeijer Consulting, LLC.
- ASTDA Secretary-Treasurer: **Edward Hook III, MD**, Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology, University of Alabama at Birmingham.

The new North America IUSTI Regional Chairperson is Bradley Stoner. Charlotte Gaydos remains as the North America director.

**Gonorrhea News:** Of concern in North America are the rising MICs to ceftriaxone and cefixime among our gonococcal isolate surveillance program (GISP). Clinicians are urged to report treatment failures to State Health laboratories, who will report to CDC.



As a result of documented treatment failures with cefixime and increasing resistance to cephalosporins, CDC has updated Treatment Guidelines. The most significant change to the new guidelines is that CDC no longer recommends an exclusively oral treatment regimen for gonorrhea. See page 2 of this newsletter.

**FDA Approves First At-Home Rapid HIV test:** The first ever over-the-counter rapid HIV test has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). According to CDC, about 1.2 million people in the US are currently living with HIV but about 1 in 5 don't know they're infected.

Users of the OraQuick In-Home HIV Test swab the upper and lower gums with the test device and place it into a vial of solution. Much like a pregnancy test, one line shows up if the test is negative; two lines means a positive test. Test results take about 20 minutes. A positive reading does not mean a definite human immunodeficiency virus infection, but that additional testing should be scheduled with a health professional. The FDA also cautions that a negative test result "does not mean that an individual is definitely not infected with HIV, particularly when exposure may have been within the previous three months." The product will be available in drug store and grocery retailers in October 2012, such as CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreens, Kroger, and Meijer. Customers will also be able to order the product at select retailers and at [www.oraquick.com](http://www.oraquick.com).

**2011 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Data:** The CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) recently released the 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) results. The YRBS tracks a variety of health risk behaviours, including sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). YRBS surveyed more than 15,000 high school students from across the country and includes national data as well as data from 43 states and 21 large urban school districts.

**STD Prevention Science Series 2012:** The American Sexually Transmitted Diseases Association (ASTDA) and the CDC's Division of STD Prevention (DSTDP) have partnered to present the latest research and best practices for STD prevention with the STD Prevention Science Series 2012.

*"It's Not Just the Pathogen Anymore: The Genital Microbiome and Implications for Sexually Transmitted Infections"* premiered on June 20th and was presented by Jeanne Marrazzo, MD, MPH, a professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of Washington.

*"Contraception and STI/HIV: Balancing the Tradeoffs in Different Contexts"* was presented on August 29th by Willard (Ward) Cates, MD, MPH, from Family Health International, Research Triangle Park, NC.

*"The Road from Observation to Intervention: Perspectives of a Pragmatic HIV Prevention Researcher"* will be presented by Connie Celum, MD, MPH from University of Washington, on December 13, 2012, 11am-12pm EST.

More information on the series, as well as archived presentations is available on the ASTDA website at



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We welcome new members from North America. Please log onto [www.IUSTI.org](http://www.IUSTI.org) and join our unique international colleagues who work in the STI field. Other Regions which play an integral part of Worldwide-IUSTI include: IUSTI-Europe, IUSTI-Latin America, IUSTI-Africa, and IUSTI-Asia Pacific. Associate membership is free and full membership is inexpensive. Membership is open to individuals with a professional interest in STIs. You can see that we have a lot of work to do in diagnosing, treating, and preventing STIs in North America.

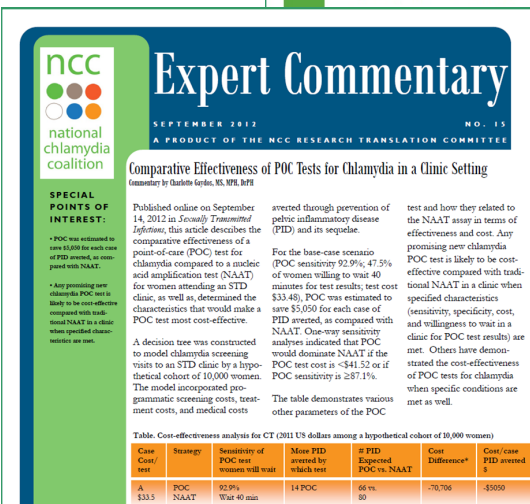
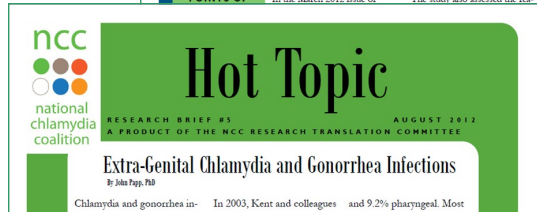
## Update to CDC's Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines, 2010: Oral Cephalosporins No Longer a Recommended Treatment for Gonococcal Infections

For treatment of uncomplicated urogenital, anorectal, and pharyngeal gonorrhea, CDC recommends combination therapy with a single intramuscular dose of ceftriaxone 250 mg plus either a single dose of azithromycin 1 g orally or doxycycline 100 mg orally twice daily for 7 days.

When ceftriaxone cannot be used for treatment of urogenital or rectal gonorrhea, two alternative options are available: cefixime 400 mg orally plus either azithromycin 1 g orally or doxycycline 100 mg twice daily orally for 7 days if ceftriaxone is not readily available, or azithromycin 2 g orally in a single dose if ceftriaxone cannot be given because of severe allergy. If a patient with gonorrhea is treated with an alternative regimen, the patient should return 1 week after treatment for a test-of-cure at the infected anatomic site.

For more information and recommendations, visit:

<http://www.cdc.gov/std/gonorrhea/>



In this study, up to 44% of older women who visited providers for reasons besides an STD or pregnancy might have been screened unnecessarily. As interventions are developed and implemented to increase testing of young sexually active women, efforts are also needed to ensure that screening is appropriately targeted for at-risk older women.

The first large (84%) of the rectal gonorrhea and chlamydia infections were asymptomatic. A point of particular importance was that 53% of chlamydia and 64% of gonorrhea infections were at non-urothelial sites and would have been missed if the traditional approach to screening of men by testing only urothelial specimens had been used.

Recent documents available for download on Members page of National Chlamydia Coalition's website.

<http://ncc.prevent.org/members.aspx>



## STI & AIDS World Congress 2013 July 14-17, 2013 Vienna, Austria

Joint meeting of the 20th Meeting of the International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research (ISSTD) and the 14th World Congress of the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI). The conference will take place from July 14 to 17, 2013 in Vienna's most famous conference venue, the Hofburg Congress Center located in the heart of the city.

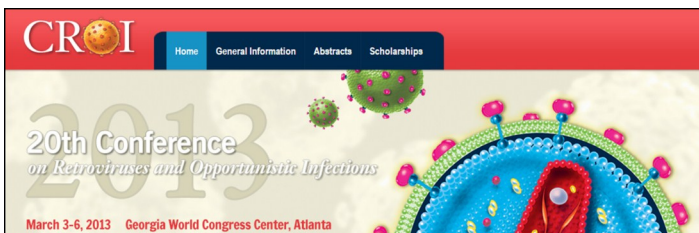
### IMPORTANT DATES:

**Call for Papers: November 1, 2012**

**Abstract Submission Deadline: February 18, 2013**

**Registration Early Deadline: April 21, 2013**

**<http://www.stivienna2013.com/>**



## March 3-6, 2013 Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta

The Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) is a scientifically focused meeting of the world's leading researchers working to understand, prevent, and treat HIV/AIDS and its complications. The goal of CROI is to provide a forum for translating laboratory and clinical research into progress against the AIDS epidemic.

Registration will be limited to researchers actively participating as investigators in basic science or clinical studies of retroviral diseases and their complications and clinician-teachers (full-time academic faculty members responsible for HIV/AIDS training and research programs).

(Deadline for late breaker abstract submissions not yet available)

**<http://retroconference.org/2013>**



During the month of September, ASHA partnered with organizations around the world in putting a special focus on the subject of sexual health. The World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) launched its third annual World Sexual Health Day observance on September 4th, and in support ASHA's activities throughout the month included a variety of web-based offerings including blogs, surveys, downloadable fact sheets, and more.

ASHA's expanded sexual health content included an interview with former Surgeon General of the United States M. Joycelyn Elders, MD, dealing in part with sexual health and sex education, as well as a series of blog posts providing perspectives on sexual health from a diverse group of voices in the field. Experts in the field weighed in on subjects ranging from school-based STD screening, to the link between the HIV epidemic and the way society views human sexuality, to how the discussion of sexual health has changed with the times.

The initiative highlighted ASHA's new broader sexual health focus, as the organization has moved in recent years to place its historical emphasis on sexually transmitted diseases into the larger context of sexual health. ASHA's merger with the National Cervical Cancer Coalition (NCCC) last year also reflects that expanded focus. NCCC was founded in 1996 as a grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to helping women, family members and caregivers battle the personal issues related to cervical cancer. Since the merger, ASHA has been working to expand NCCC's network of local chapters—currently at 30 in 24 states—that provide education and outreach activities, and is currently planning a national conference for cervical cancer survivors, medical and scientific experts, and partner organizations in Atlanta, GA, in January 2013.

**<http://www.ashastd.org/>**

(Update provided by Amy Huang)

## Upcoming Events

IDSA 50th Annual Meeting  
October 18-21, 2012 San Diego, CA

20th Conference on Retroviruses and  
Opportunistic Infections (CROI 2013)  
March 3-6, 2013 Atlanta, GA

Chlamydia Basic Research Society Meeting  
March 19-22, 2013 San Antonio, TX

American Society for Microbiology  
113th General Meeting  
May 18-21, 2013 Denver, CO

7th International AIDS Society Conference  
June 30-July 3, 2013  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



We're on the  
web!!

[www.iusti.org](http://www.iusti.org)

## Upcoming Events

STI World Congress 2013  
Joint Meeting of the 20th ISSTD & 14th IUSTI  
July 14-17, 2013 Vienna, Austria

53rd ICAAC Conference  
September 10-13, 2013 Denver, CO

American Society for Microbiology  
114th General Meeting  
May 17-20, 2014 Boston, MA

2014 National STD Prevention Conference & IUS-  
TI World Conference with North America and  
Latin America IUSTI  
June 8-13, 2014 Atlanta, GA

The XX International AIDS Conference  
(AIDS 2014)  
July 20-25, 2014 Melbourne, Australia

# <https://www.sotheycanknow.org/>

## So They Can Know

**So They Can Know is a free resource to help notify sexual partners that they may have been exposed to a sexually transmitted disease (STD).**

So They Can Know is a project of Sexual Health Innovations, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the sexual health of Americans by promoting more effective use of technology.

<http://www.sexualhealthinnovations.org/>