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Strategies to improve guideline-adherent sexual healthcare in General Practice

Abstract

South Australia has experienced a sharp increase in sexually transmissible infections, particularly gonorrhoea and syphilis. As a result, these infections are diagnosed increasingly frequently in general practice. Access to guideline-adherent sexual health care, including comprehensive screening, timely symptomatic testing, and appropriate management of STIs is critical to improve sexual health outcomes and limit the onward transmission of STIs.

This project will explore approaches to improve provision of sexual health care in general practice, including (1) a review of existing approaches, (2) an exploration of needs and preferences of general practitioners in SA, and (3) the implementation and evaluation of a pilot project.

The primary target outcomes are (1) increased testing for chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis, and HIV in accordance with the Australian STI Management Guidelines for Use in Primary Care and (2) increased recall for treatment administration and monitoring for those with an STI diagnosis, particularly syphilis.

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