

Chapter II: Region VIII Infertility Prevention Project (Chlamydia Project)

- Region VIII Chlamydia Project Advisory Committee was formed in 1992.
- Comprised of representatives from state family planning programs, state STD programs, and state public health laboratories within Region VIII.
- Region VIII is composed of six states:

Colorado	South Dakota
Montana	Utah
North Dakota	Wyoming

Regional Goal

- Assess and reduce the prevalence of chlamydia infections and associated complications in family planning (FP) and STD clinic populations through the collaborative efforts of STD and FP providers and laboratories throughout Region VIII. This will be accomplished through a program of outreach, education, screening, treatment, and follow-up.
 - Funds granted through this project are intended to expand services to women in need, rather than replace or supplant existing service dollars.

Committee Structure

- RAC is composed of representatives from Title X FP programs, state STD programs, and state laboratories from each state in Region VIII.
- Denver Public Health also has representation on the Advisory Committee.
- RAC meets two times per year.
- Executive Committee comprises three officers: the lead chairperson, the co-chairperson, and the secretary.
- In addition to the Lab Workgroup, workgroups addressing strategic plan goals are created as necessary.
- Current strategic plan goals address four priority areas: partner services, treatment verification, lab services, and effective use of resources.
- JSI Research and Training Institute (JSI R & T) administers the project in Region VIII and provides coordination and support to the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) and sub-committees.
- CDC provides ongoing guidance and technical assistance in the operation of the project, including the provision of up-to-date information on testing, treatment, surveillance, and other vital components of a chlamydia control program.

Overall Objectives

- Implement a regional data collection system
- Evaluate and assess screening criteria
- Expand services
- Improve services, such as screening, treatment, and follow-up
- Provide appropriate and relevant training
- Reduce test, treatment, and laboratory costs

Contact Information

- The infrastructure hosts a website: www.region8ipp.org
 - Committee Roster
 - Access to Data Reports
 - Other IPP News and Information
- Infrastructure contacts:
 - Yvonne Hamby, Project Director
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Chapter II: Infertility Prevention Project (IPP) National Overview

Background of the National IPP

- National Infertility Prevention Project, funded by the CDC, began in 1995.
- Since 1988, the CDC and the Office of Population Affairs (OPA) funded a chlamydia demonstration project in Region X (Seattle).
- All ten federal regions now have an IPP.
- Majority of screening occurs in publicly funded family planning and STD clinics.

Goal of the National IPP

- To implement effective prevention strategies designed to reduce the debilitating complications, including infertility, that are caused by *Chlamydia trachomatis* infection in the United States.
- This goal will be accomplished by screening and treating women for *Chlamydia trachomatis*.

Partnerships

- Within each project area, family planning, STD and laboratory partners work together to provide high quality chlamydia screening and treatment services.

Infrastructure Funds

Each of the ten regional Family Planning Training Centers receives funding to coordinate the regional program, including the development of:

- Screening and patient/partner care protocols
- Criteria for selection of tests and laboratories
- Data collection and reporting system
- Quality assurance criteria and studies
- Training plans

Innovations

Innovations have included:

- Establishment of Regional Service Protocols, including Regional Screening Criteria
- Development of a regional prevalence monitoring data system
- Specimen adequacy studies and training to improve specimen quality
- Utilization of cutting edge chlamydia test technology, including urine screening
- Development of regional training materials
- Expansion of services to non-traditional settings, e.g., detention centers, drug rehab, schools, etc.