



COOS COUNTY Public Health

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health Advisory

Cases of gonorrhea in Coos County have nearly doubled from 2012 to 2013. Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted infection (STI) and if not treated, or treated inappropriately, infection can lead to infertility, especially in females. Infection can also make it more likely to become infected with HIV, if exposed.

The number of cases themselves are not necessarily alarming, 2 cases were reported in 2011, 6 in 2012 and 11 (provisional number) in 2013. The majority of the cases were white and between the ages of 20 and 34 years.

This fall the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a report identifying a form of "super" gonorrhea as an urgent threat. Gonorrhea, like many bacterial infections, has started to become stubbornly drug-resistant. Fortunately, Coos County has not seen any reports of drug-resistant gonorrhea; however, it is likely just a matter of time.

Many females and some males with gonorrhea will not have symptoms. It is important for sexually active individuals who are not in mutually monogamous sexual relationships to be tested for gonorrhea, and other STIs, periodically.

If you have been diagnosed with gonorrhea you should make sure that anyone you have had sex with in the past 60 days receives an exam and treatment. Coos County Public Health can confidentially help notify and refer sex partners for treatment.

Local testing and treatment is available at your local provider's office or:

Coos County Public Health
1975 McPherson Ave. Ste. 1
North Bend, OR 97459
(541) 751-2400

Bandon Community Health Center
780 2nd St. SE, Ste. 7
Bandon, OR 97411
(541) 347-2529

Waterfall Community Health Center
1890 Waite Rd., Ste. 3
North Bend, OR 97459
(541) 756-6232

The best ways to prevent gonorrhea include abstinence, use of condoms during intercourse, or participating in a mutually monogamous relationship.

If you have questions or concerns please contact Coos County Health Department at 541-751-2431.

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