



**NCS D**  
National Coalition  
of STD Directors

# DIS TRAINING PLAN

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Delivering Sexual Health Services in the Time of COVID-19

\*Please check back continuously for updated or new [trainings](#) and [learning collaboratives](#).



# DIS TRAINING PLAN

Training resources, including Passport to Partner Service, and other courses provided by CDC TRAIN, California Prevention Training Center, Health Care Education and Training, and National Network of Disease Intervention Training Centers remain available to HIV/STD programs for DIS training until the new fundamentals course is launched. The courses listed below can be used as an interim training plan for DIS. Stay tuned for new courses coming soon and visit [nationalDITC.org](http://nationalDITC.org).

## FOUNDATION

To navigate to a training, click its title.

### Passport to Partner Services Modules

The Passport to Partner Services online modules are for providers who conduct all aspects of Partner Services (PS), and they are designed for PS professionals of all experience levels. There are 14 online modules. Eight of these modules focus on key disease concepts: Infectious Disease and Human Anatomy, Syphilis, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID), HIV Infection and AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Hepatitis. The other six modules focus on core Partner Services skills: Introduction to Partner Services for PS Providers, Communication Skills, Interviewing (5 sub-units), Field Investigation and Notification, Referrals and Linkages to Care, and Syphilis Case Management and VCA.

**CDC Train**

**Estimated time for completion: 100  
hours over a 40-45 day period**

**Self-paced**

### Integrating PrEP into Partner Services

This course is designed to give Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) the tools they need to offer HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to their clients by reviewing what PrEP is, how it differs from post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) how to assess whether a patient is eligible for PrEP, and PrEP counseling. This course also provides a new job aid, the PrEP Counseling Checklist, that DIS can utilize during patient encounters.

**CDC Train**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 15 minutes**

**Self-paced**

### Introduction to Field Safety for DIS

This module will introduce partner services providers (i.e., DIS) to the basic principles and best practices for safely conducting field visits. You will learn how to be aware of your surroundings throughout the five stages of a field visit. Additionally, you will conduct a mock field visit that illustrates various ways to prepare, conduct, and document the results of a field visit. By increasing your knowledge and developing these skills, you will be more confident and more effective when conducting field visits in the future.

**CDC Train**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 30 minutes**

**Self-paced**

## Introduction to Public Health Detailing

This course is designed to educate and inform DIS on how to perform comprehensive, high-quality public health detailing to medical and healthcare professionals. Beyond introducing what detailing is, this course helps prepare DIS for every aspect of detailing from preparing for an initial visit, to developing key messages, to developing an action plan for follow-up.

**CDC Train**

**Estimated time for completion:**  
**3.5 hours**

**Self-paced**

## Introduction to Telephone Interviewing for DIS

This module will introduce partner services providers (i.e., DIS) to the basic principles and best practices for conducting telephone interviews. You will learn about professionalism, confidentiality and cultural competency. You will also learn how to prepare for and conduct a telephone interview. By developing these communication skills, you will be more confident and more effective in conducting a telephone interview.

**CDC Train**

**Estimated time for completion:**  
**30 min**

**Self-paced**

## Introduction to Trauma Informed Care for DIS

This course is designed to introduce Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) to the principles and strategies of trauma-informed care, so they are equipped with the knowledge and tools necessary to support clients who have experienced trauma. This course includes many printable resources to refer back to and to include in your DIS toolkit.

**CDC Train**

**Estimated time for completion:**  
**25 min**

**Self-paced**

## Motivational Interviewing

These modules provide an overview of the rationale and evidence for using motivational interviewing to facilitate change with your clients. We hope that this overview will help and inspire you to communicate with your clients, patients, and communities in a more effective way.

**California Prevention  
Training Center**

**Estimated time for completion:**  
**unknown**

**Self-paced**

## STD Expert Hour Webinar – Sexual History Taking

Yvonne Piper RN, FNP covers the following learning objectives for this webinar: describe 5 key components of a routine sexual history to reduce infectiousness and decrease STD/HIV transmission, demonstrate respectful, non-judgmental communication skills to discuss sexual practices, sexual risks, and risk reduction strategies with patients, understand effective methods of dialogue with patients regarding issues of sexual history and sexual behaviors, to improve communication with patients and patient outcomes, and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of open-ended and closed questions to enhance sexual history taking.

**California Prevention  
Training Center**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour**

**Self-paced**

\*Please check these [links](#) for continuously updated new trainings and learning collaboratives.

**Learning Collaboratives****Denver Prevention  
Training Center**

## **STD/HIV Partner Services Interview Demonstration Video**

This video provides an example of a mock partner services interview with a syphilis client. HIV prevention is also addressed extensively during the interview. The use of the STD/HIV interview format is highlighted throughout the video.

**CDC Train****Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour****Self-paced**

## **STD Expert Hour Webinar – Disseminated Gonococcal Infection (DGI)**

Drs. Quilter and Tang cover the following learning objectives for this webinar: describe the epidemiology of uncomplicated gonorrhea and DGI, recognize the clinical manifestations of DGI and increase clinical suspicion for DGI in patients with joint pain, demonstrate how to diagnose, manage, and treat DGI, report all laboratory-confirmed and clinically-suspected cases of DGI to public health, and prioritize routine screening, testing, and treatment of STDs among high-risk patients.

**California Prevention  
Training Center****Estimated time for completion:  
1 hour 15 minutes****Self-paced**

## **Staying Resilient and Delivering Patient Care**

Robin Mattheis discusses resiliency in delivering patient care.

**Health Care Education  
and Training****Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour****Self-paced**

## **Innovative Prevention Strategies to Reduce Congenital Syphilis Rates**

In recent years, the CDC reports that Congenital Syphilis cases are rapidly growing throughout the United States. Although Congenital Syphilis is preventable, there continues to be new cases each year in Indiana. In this webinar, you will hear from three public health leaders who have helped diminish these increasing rates of Congenital Syphilis in their home states of Texas and Louisiana.

**Health Care Education  
and Training****Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour****Self-paced**

## **Fix Your Face: How an Affirming Sexual History Can Improve Sexual Health Engagement and Outcomes**

Here is what you can expect to learn at this event: describing nonjudgmental and sex-positive methods of taking a sexual history, proficiently discussing the benefits of conducting a proper sexual history as it relates to STD care, and making proper referrals to encourage client engagement with Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) and other community resources.

**Health Care Education  
and Training**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour**

**Self-paced**

## **Developments in STD Testing Needs**

Dr. Jessica Dalby and Dr. Alana Sterkel lead a collaborative discussion for practitioners and laboratorians on developments in STD testing needs.

**Health Care Education  
and Training**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour**

**Self-paced**

## **A Helping Hand: How Syphilis Partner Services are Aiding in Ending the HIV Epidemic**

Dawne DiOrio discusses how syphilis partner services are aiding in ending the HIV epidemic.

**Health Care Education  
and Training**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour**

**Self-paced**

## **The Great Masquerade: Unveiling the Deceit of Syphilis**

Following this webinar, participants will be able to: describe the current state of syphilis in Indiana, recognize signs, symptoms, and basic treatment options for syphilis infection, identify protocols for syphilis screening and testing, and determine when patients are candidates for rapid syphilis testing.

**Health Care Education  
and Training**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour**

**Self-paced**

## **Swipe Right: Including Dating Apps in Partner Services**

According to the CDC, 84% of adults in the U.S. are online, and 90% own a smart phone. The internet's ubiquity has ignited a trend of adults meeting potential sexual partners via dating websites and phone applications (apps). In a 2015 report, the CDC explained that the internet's "pseudo-anonymity" means that individuals might not know more than their sexual partner's profile name or email address. The CDC explains that "when partner-locating information is limited to such virtual identifiers, the Internet and other digital media often become the only means for notifying a partner of their exposure" to STDs and HIV. As this situation becomes more prevalent, public health officials are meeting their patients where they are by learning how to navigate these technological platforms. This webinar will provide an overview of how public health officials are using technology to reach their clients.

**Health Care Education  
and Training**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour**

**Self-paced**

## **Social Determinants of Health and HIV**

An understanding of social determinants is essential to the implementation of effective HIV treatment or prevention interventions. This engaging and informative one-hour online course, based on our popular two-day instructor-led training, provides an introduction to social determinants and HIV. It includes an overview of social determinants, their relevance to health disparities, and their particular importance in understanding HIV in the US today.

**California Prevention  
Training Center**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour**

**Self-paced**

## **Moving from Bias to Engagement Using Cultural Humility**

Join California Prevention Training Center Capacity-Building Assistance Specialist Deborah Wyatt-O’Neal to learn how cultural humility and unconscious bias affect client engagement in care. Discover techniques to address biases and practice humility to better support clients and honor their humility.

**California Prevention  
Training Center**

**Estimated time for  
completion: unknown**

**Self-paced**

## **Medical Mistrust**

The purpose of this learning collaborative is to provide attendees with information about how medical mistrust and distrust adversely impacts efforts related to contact tracing and case investigation. We will discuss strategies to meaningfully engage priority populations to address medical mistrust and distrust while responding to COVID- 19.

**National Network of Disease  
Intervention Training Centers**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1.5 hours**

**Live, instructor-led**

## **Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity**

This course is designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills you need to provide inclusive and affirming services to your patients. It reviews the constructs of sexual orientation and gender identity, terms that patients may use to describe themselves, and communication strategies to use with patients to demonstrate respect for everyone’s sexuality and gender.

**CDC Train**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour**

**Self-paced**

## Heterosexual Women and Syphilis



This webinar will explore the current rising syphilis trend in heterosexual women. It will also cover risk factors and causes for sexually transmitted diseases (STD). This webinar will discuss what medical mistrust is and how a health care worker can identify it in the clinic. This webinar will also provide strategies to build rapport and new innovations for prevention.

**Health Care Education  
and Training**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour**

**Self-paced**

## **COVID-19**

### Making Contact: A Training for COVID-19 Contact Tracers

Introductory online course for entry-level COVID-19 contact tracers, for use by health agencies in rapid training of new contact tracers. The training will be augmented by state/local specific training required to orient individuals to jurisdiction-specific protocols. This training focuses on building knowledge for remote contact tracing; a subsequent release will include a module on field services.

**ASTHO e-Learning Center**

**Estimated time for  
completion: unknown**

**Self-paced**

### COVID-19 Contact Tracing Virtual Training

Participants will learn how to conduct a contact tracing interview including notifying contacts of exposure, determining the quarantine period, providing information and recommendations for quarantine, and addressing common concerns exposed persons may experience during this time. Foundational and enhanced interviewing skills will be reinforced and applied throughout the CT practice sessions.

**National Network of Disease  
Intervention Training Centers**

**Estimated time for completion:  
12 hours over a 3-day period**

**Live, instructor-led**

### COVID-19 Case Investigation Virtual Training

Participants will learn how to conduct a case investigation interview including determining the contact elicitation window, eliciting close contact information, providing recommendations and guidelines for isolation, and addressing common concerns persons with COVID-19 may experience during isolation. Foundational and enhanced interviewing skills will be reinforced and applied throughout the CI practice sessions.

**National Network of Disease  
Intervention Training Centers**

**Estimated time for completion:  
12 hours over a 3-day period**

**Live, instructor-led**

## **COVID-19 Leadership: Best Practice for Team Leads**

This virtual skills-based course is designed for public health leaders who manage case investigators and contact tracers supporting COVID-19 programs.

**National Network of Disease  
Intervention Training Centers**

**Estimated time for completion:  
unknown**

**Live, instructor-led**

## **STD Expert Hour Webinar – Delivering Sexual Health Services in the Time of COVID-19**

Dr. Ina Park and Dr. Rosalyn Plotzker provide an overview of recent CDC recommendations for STD diagnosis and treatment when in-person exams and visits are limited. They also discuss best practices for the use of telehealth and home-testing for STD care and PrEP management.

**California Prevention  
Training Center**

**Estimated time for completion:  
1 hour**

**Self-paced**

## **SUBSTANCE USE**

## **Preventing Viral Hepatitis Among Persons Who Use Drugs**

Despite recommendations for vaccination against viral hepatitis A and viral hepatitis B for all adults at increased risk of infection, several U.S. states report increases in both infections among persons who inject drugs. Vaccination coverage for hepatitis A and hepatitis B was investigated among a sample of persons who reported injecting drugs and had evidence of hepatitis C virus antibodies. This webinar will discuss the results of this research and the recommendations for vaccination among persons who inject drugs.

**Health Care Education  
and Training**

**Estimated time for completion:  
45 minutes**

**Self-paced**

Dr. Geri Donenberg, Dr. Ashley Kendall, and Dr. Nyssa Snow-Hill discuss adolescent substance use and sexual health.

**Health Care Education  
and Training**

**Estimated time for  
completion: 1 hour**

**Self-paced**