

## Certified Practice Competencies for Reproductive Health: Sexually Transmitted Infections

The competencies for Registered Nurse, BCCNM Certified Practice of Reproductive Health - Sexually Transmitted Infections are documented below. These include Section 8 restricted activities for the diagnosis and treatment of the following diseases and disorders:

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|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Chlamydia trachomatis (Reportable) | 6. Urethritis                    |
| 2. Neisseria gonorrhoea (Reportable)  | 7. Recurrent Urethritis          |
| 3. Mucopurulent cervicitis            | 8. Lower urinary tract infection |
| 4. Trichomoniasis                     | 9. Genital Warts                 |
| 5. Bacterial Vaginosis (BV)           | 10. Treatment of STI Contacts    |

### NURSING PRACTICE COMPETENCIES

KNOWLEDGE of:	SKILL in:	JUDGMENT regarding:	ATTITUDE that:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The burden of STIs as it relates to specific populations, syndemics and the determinants of health</li> <li>Cultural safety</li> <li>Trauma and violence informed care /practice</li> <li>Gender and sexual diversity</li> <li>Etiology, signs &amp; symptoms, testing, complications, diagnostic findings of STIs</li> <li>Education, counselling, prevention and harm reduction measures</li> <li>Pharmacology, common side effects, and contraindications related to medications and safe prescribing principles and standards</li> <li>Documentation standards, reporting and partner notification requirements</li> <li>Knowledge of STI epidemiology, local surveillance and affected populations</li> <li>Elements that influence STI/HIV transmission</li> <li>Available and accessible educational and online resources /services and community services for affected populations and those experiencing barriers to accessing care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessing the level of plausible risk for acquiring an STI/HIV in relation to the type of exposure</li> <li>Obtaining a relevant sexual health history</li> <li>Performing relevant and affirming STI physical assessment, specimen collection and testing</li> <li>Prescribing, administering, dispensing and/or recommending STI medication or treatment</li> <li>Providing appropriate client centered education, support and resources</li> <li>Facilitating partner notification strategies</li> <li>Collecting and documenting information for surveillance, reporting, and case management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determining approach and relevant strategies to assist clients in reducing harm</li> <li>Testing, treating, and providing follow-up, based on client assessment, clinical presentation, and laboratory data</li> <li>Referring clients to appropriate and safe resources/services</li> <li>Determining appropriate and safe strategies for notifying identified partners</li> <li>Recognizing the scope and limitations of certified practice</li> <li>Consulting and referring to physician/nurse practitioner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respects and honours clients' choices, beliefs and values</li> <li>Demonstrates self-awareness and self-reflexivity of own beliefs and values, and how this may impact practice</li> <li>Demonstrates sensitivity regarding impact of STI diagnoses; infectious disease surveillance, reporting, and partner notification</li> <li>Reflects creativity and flexibility in supporting client tailored STI assessments</li> <li>Fosters open communication</li> <li>Advocates for reducing barriers to care</li> </ul>