

**IDAHO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**JULY 15 - 17, 2011**

RESOLUTION 09 (11)

SUBJECT: EXPEDITED PARTNER THERAPY

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SPONSORED BY: IDAHO ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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1 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
2 (CDC), the incidence of chlamydia and gonorrhea in the United  
3 States continues to increase with over 1.2 million cases of  
4 chlamydia and 337,000 cases of gonorrhea reported in 2008; and  
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6 WHEREAS, If untreated, chlamydia and gonorrhea can result in serious  
7 complications, such as pelvic inflammatory disease, chronic pelvic  
8 pain, infertility, and can increase a person's risk of acquiring HIV;  
9 and  
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11 WHEREAS, To prevent infection in the community and to reduce re-infection  
12 rates in treated patients, sex partners of infected patients must be  
13 provided timely and appropriate antibiotic treatment, however  
14 infected partners are often asymptomatic and may not seek medical  
15 treatment; and  
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17 WHEREAS, Expedited partner therapy (EPT) is generally defined as the  
18 practice of treating the sex partner(s) of persons with sexually

**ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

1 transmitted diseases (STD) without an intervening medical  
2 evaluation by a physician and without first establishing a  
3 traditional physician-patient relationship; and

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5 WHEREAS, In 2006, the CDC issued “Expedited Partner Therapy in the  
6 Management of Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Review and  
7 Guidance” which recommends the use of EPT as a safe and  
8 effective option for treating the partners of men and women  
9 infected with chlamydia or gonorrhea; and

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11 WHEREAS, According to available data to date, twenty-one states have  
12 provisions for EPT including six that allow treatment of most  
13 STDs, fifteen states that permit treatment of chlamydia, twelve  
14 states that allow treatment for gonorrhea, and two states that allow  
15 treatment for syphilis; therefore be it

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17 RESOLVED, That the Idaho Medical Association support Expedited Partner  
18 Therapy as described in current Centers for Disease Control and  
19 Prevention recommendations and; be it further

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21 RESOLVED, That the Idaho Medical Association support legislation that would  
22 authorize expedited partner therapy by physicians for the partners  
23 of patients who test positive for sexually transmitted diseases.

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25 IMA POLICY: None

26 RESOURCE ALLOCATION: Moderate