Infectious Syphilis in Clark County
2018

What is Syphilis?
- Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection that can cause serious health problems if not treated
- Syphilis is spread by direct contact with a syphilis sore during vaginal, anal, or oral sex
- Syphilis is divided into stages that have different signs & symptoms:
  - Primary, Secondary, and Early Non-Primary Non-Secondary are the infectious stages of syphilis

Signs & Symptoms:
- **Primary Syphilis**: Sore(s) at the original site of infection – on or around genitals, anus, or mouth
- **Secondary Syphilis**: Skin rash, fever, swollen lymph nodes
- **Early Non-Primary Non-Secondary Syphilis**: The individual was infected within the past year and is infectious, but there are no visible symptoms

Risk Factors:
- Risky sexual behavior including:
  - Sex without a condom
  - Sex while intoxicated/high on drugs
  - Male-to-male sexual contact (MSM)
  - Females having sex with MSM
  - Anonymous sex
  - Exchanging drugs/money for sex
- Incarceration within last year
- Injection drug use

Treatment:
- **Syphilis can be cured with antibiotics**
- Individuals who are treated for syphilis should not have sex until syphilis sores are completely healed
- Individuals who have been treated for syphilis can be reinfected

In 2018, there were 1,006 total cases of infectious syphilis diagnosed in Clark County
- 217 cases of primary syphilis
- 339 cases of secondary syphilis
- 450 cases of early non-primary non-secondary syphilis

24.1% of individuals diagnosed with infectious syphilis in 2018 have been infected with syphilis more than once

39.7% of individuals diagnosed with infectious syphilis in 2018 are also infected with HIV

How to Protect Yourself:
- **Know your sexual partner**
- Have sex only with someone who is not infected and who has sex only with you
- Use condoms correctly and consistently to reduce your risk
- Get tested regularly if you are sexually active
- **See a doctor if**:
  - Your partner is being treated for syphilis
  - You or your partner notice any symptoms, such as a painless red sore

Individuals diagnosed with infectious syphilis in 2018 reported an average **10.2 sexual partners** during the previous 12 months

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84% of cases were male
14% of cases were female
2% of cases were transgender

% Infectious Syphilis Cases by Race/Ethnicity
- NH White: 34.6%
- NH Black: 29.6%
- Hispanic: 27.8%
- NH API: 4.5%
- NH Other: 0.5%
- Multi Race: 1.1%
- Unknown Race: 1.4%

Note: NH = Non-Hispanic; API = Asian/Pacific

Average Age at Time of Report: **35.5 years**