

SYPHILIS COULD YOUR PATIENT HAVE IT?

CLINICIANS ARE ON THE FRONT LINES OF SAN DIEGO'S FIGHT AGAINST SYPHILIS

COULD THAT ULCER BE PRIMARY SYPHILIS?

fig. 1 & 2

- A chancre is typically a single painless ulcer with firm borders and a clean base that appears on or around the genitals, anus, or mouth
- Regional lymphadenopathy can be present

COULD YOUR PATIENT HAVE SECONDARY SYPHILIS?

fig. 3 & 4

- Signs can include rash on the palms and soles and/or trunk and lesions in the oral, genital, and/or perianal areas, generalized lymphadenopathy, and low-grade fever
- Symptoms can include malaise, sore throat, headache, weight loss, and muscle aches

THINK YOUR PATIENT MAY HAVE SYPHILIS?

- Order the appropriate serologic tests
- Treat without waiting for test results if you strongly suspect syphilis
- Refer your patient, if necessary, to the County of San Diego's main STD Clinic, at 3851 Rosecrans St., where darkfield microscopy, rapid RPR tests, and treatment are available
- Screen sexually active gay men and other men who have sex with men every 3-6 months
- Screen all pregnant women

DID YOU DIAGNOSE SYPHILIS IN YOUR PATIENT?

- Treat as soon as possible
- Fax a Confidential Morbidity Report to (619) 692-8541 within one day of diagnosis
- Encourage your patient to work with the County's public health staff, who follow up with most syphilis patients, to make sure that your patient's sex partners have been tested and treated

WANT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SYPHILIS?

- Call the County of San Diego at (619) 692-8501 between 8 am and 5 pm on normal business days
- Screening, testing, and treatment information:
<http://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/2006/genital-ulcers.htm#genulc6>

Syphilis in San Diego County

- 525 cases in 2008, an increase of over 1300% when compared to 2000
- 78% of cases were among gay men or other men who have sex with men, of whom 64% were HIV-infected



fig. 1 PRIMARY SYPHILIS, chancre.



fig. 2 PRIMARY SYPHILIS, chancre.



fig. 3 SECONDARY SYPHILIS, rash.



fig. 4 SECONDARY SYPHILIS, rash.



FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS OF SAN DIEGO

