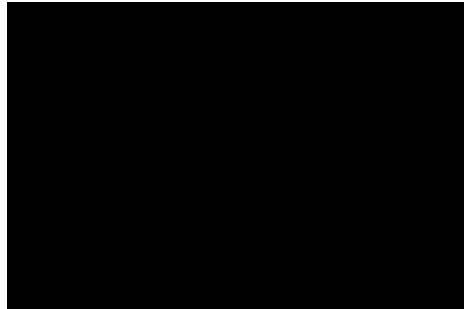


# STANDARD DEVIATIONS: Going, Going, Gonorrhea?

Greetings,

No, gonorrhea is not going. In fact, it's getting better at hanging around. Last week and in previous posts I have thrown Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) numbers at you. Twenty three thousand U.S. deaths/yr. (2013) and millions of deaths world-wide by 2050, yada, yada. Gonorrhea isn't a killer but it is a harmful, significant public health concern. And, it just happens to be a bug that embodies the resistance story in a dramatic clarity that makes my rants seem.....seem.....well, take a look...



*A four minute CDC video about gonorrhea and resistance*

Your Utah Public Health Laboratory performs testing for sexually transmitted disease (STD) every day. We perform around 1000 STD assays a week that are submitted from labs, clinics and physician offices around the State. Of the samples tested in a week, 3% will be positive for gonorrhea, and 9% positive for chlamydia. We identify nearly 15 cases of syphilis a week and typically 4% of our HIV tests are positives.

The **good** news is that Utah (**over all ages**) is statistically near the bottom of the chart for U.S. figures. Looking at CDC data from 2017, we're **47<sup>th</sup> for Chlamydia** at 332.2/100,000 pop, **43<sup>rd</sup> for Gonorrhea** at 83.3/100,000, and **39<sup>th</sup> for Syphilis** with 3.8/100,000 with no congenital syphilis cases in 2017.

The **bad** news is that statistics are funny things. **Chlamydia case rates for Utah females aged 2-24 was 2,015.5 cases per 100,000. Gonorrhea in Utah? 317 cases per 100,000 in males aged 25-29.** And for syphilis, in 2017, the rate increased to the highest in the past 10 years.

Maybe not the most romantic post just after Valentine's Day.

Have a great week and be safe,

Bryan

References:

[www.cdc.gov/std/stats17/SRtables.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats17/SRtables.pdf)

[www.cdc.gov/std/stats17/default.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats17/default.htm)

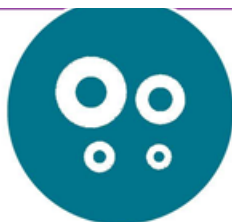
[www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/biggest\\_threats.html](http://www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/biggest_threats.html)

# The STATE of STDs in



## Utah

THE NATION EXPERIENCES  
STEP AND SUSTAINED STD  
INCREASES.



**2017 Utah**  
CASES OF CHLAMYDIA  
10,135



**2017 Utah**  
CASES OF GONORRHEA  
2,541



**2017 Utah**  
CASES OF SYPHILIS  
117

LEARN MORE AT: [www.cdc.gov/std/](http://www.cdc.gov/std/)