

Updated Syphilis Screening Recommendations for Correctional Settings in Arizona

In light of ongoing statewide increases in [congenital syphilis](#) and syphilis in adults, the Arizona Department of Health Services has issued new recommendations for syphilis screening in **correctional settings** to improve linkage to [treatment](#).

- **NEW: Implement opt-out screening prior to discharge** for people of childbearing capacity/pregnant people in correctional settings. Use rapid tests and treat if inmates are released prior to receiving test results and treatment.
- **NEW: Implement opt-out screening for people with substance use disorder prior to discharge** in correctional settings. Use rapid tests and treat if inmates are released prior to receiving test results and treatment.
- **Updated:** Include opt-out screening for syphilis in settings that serve people with addiction/Substance Use Disorder.

ADHS has also issued new general syphilis screening recommendations for Arizonans.

- **NEW: Screen sexually active individuals aged 15 to 44 for syphilis annually** (adopted from [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) guidance).
- **NEW: Implement opt-out screening for syphilis** for pregnant people and people of childbearing capacity with unknown pregnancy status in Emergency Departments, Urgent Care, and other healthcare and/or outreach settings. In settings where follow-up is uncertain, it is recommended to use a rapid/point of care test and offer [same-day treatment](#) following a positive result **prior to discharge**.
- **Updated:** Include opt-out screening for syphilis in Emergency Departments, Urgent Care, and other healthcare and/or outreach settings that serve people with addiction/Substance Use Disorder.

If you have any questions regarding the new screening recommendations please contact sti@azdhs.gov.

For more information:

- [2021 STD treatment guidelines](#)
- [2021 STD Treatment Summary](#)