

Hawaii DOH 2023 Updated Syphilis Screening Recommendations

Specific Population	Screening Recommendation
<p>Pregnant Persons</p>	<p>All pregnant persons should be screened three times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At first prenatal care visit (or as early as possible during their pregnancy) • At 24-32 weeks of gestation • At delivery* <p>➤ Pregnant persons who present late for prenatal care or have fragmented care, should be screened for syphilis and other STIs (chlamydia, gonorrhea and HIV) whenever they present at <u>any</u> healthcare setting (e.g. ED, urgent care, jail, substance use treatment facility).</p> <p>➤ Screening should be performed in cases of fetal demise at greater than 20 weeks gestation.</p>
<p>Non-pregnant Persons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons who may become pregnant • Males who have sex with females • Males who have sex with males • Transgender or gender diverse persons who have sex with males 	<p>Sexually active⁺ non-pregnant persons should be screened at least annually and whenever they present for care (up to every 3-6 months) based on increased risk of infection. Example risk indicators include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illicit substance use such as methamphetamine or nonprescription opioids • Homeless or unstable housing • History of transactional sex • Current or prior incarceration • History of STIs (chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, or HIV) • Multiple or anonymous sex partners • Use of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) • Condomless sex with a partner of unknown STI status <p>➤ People with a sex partner with any of the above risks should be screened at least annually.</p> <p>➤ Females whose male partners have sex with both males and females should be screened annually.</p>

Medical providers should be especially vigilant in following these recommendations when caring for Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander patients as syphilis has disproportionately affected these communities.

* Clinicians and healthcare organizations should test all pregnant persons at time of delivery if it is not possible to ascertain patient risk factors for syphilis.

+ Sexually active = any oral, anal, or vaginal sex in the last year or since last syphilis test

[Adapted from 2022 PHSKC and WA DOH Updated Syphilis Screening Guidelines](#)