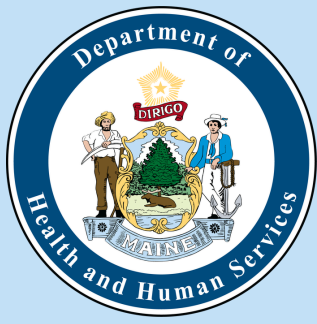




MAINE CDC

DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALISTS



Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) are highly trained public health professionals who conduct confidential sexually transmitted infection (STI) and HIV investigations, frontline outbreak response, client-centered prevention counseling and education, and HIV linkage and reengagement to medical care activities throughout the state.

DIS work to understand transmission patterns of infectious diseases and limit their spread. Their extensive training is designed to ensure that people receive the services they need to keep communities healthy. Core responsibilities of DIS include:

- Gathering important information about people who have tested positive for a infectious disease, including symptoms, demographic details, travel history, potential partners or contacts, and treatment and testing histories
- Connecting people to facilities and providing additional resources as needed
- Confidentially notifying partners and contacts of their possible exposure and providing them with prevention, counseling, testing, and treatment resources
- Identifying factors associated with transmission within the community, characterizing the underlying risk network, and using this information to guide intervention efforts to improve health outcomes, and prevent additional infections



Health care professionals can assist in these efforts by informing patients that trained Maine CDC DIS may contact them to ensure that they and their partners or contacts get the care or treatment they need to prevent further transmission.



Maine has infectious disease reporting requirements that support public health's responsibilities to control the incidence and spread of infectious diseases, including STIs and HIV. Complete rules for the control of notifiable disease and conditions: www.maine.gov/dhhs/disease-reporting



Where can I get more information?

Phone: 1-800-821-5821 (24 hours a day)

STI & HIV Prevention | Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention