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Services in Florida and Georgia

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Florida PBRN

# **Comparative Cost Study of STD Services in Florida and Georgia**



# Research Team

- Bill Livingood Ph.D. and Bonnie Sorensen M.D. are the Principle Investigators.
- Lori Bilello Ph.D., Project Director and Co-I
- Dale Kraemer, Ph.D., Biostatistician
- Jeff Harman Ph.D., Health Economist
- Stacey Shiver and Phil Street, FDOH
- Karen Chapman, M.D. and Judy Hartner, M.D. (CHD directors)
- Radley Remo, MPH – Duval CHD



# Primary Aim

- To identify the unit costs of STD prevention and control services and examine the effects of variations in delivery system characteristics on costs including:
  - standardization/centralization of programs
  - centralization of IT and HR systems
  - economies of scale related to population size of CHD jurisdiction
  - local tax and other revenue support for CHD STD services
  - responsiveness to local community governance



# Why Unit Cost of STI Services?

- STD prevention and control programs are among the most highly reported local public health services/surveillance data
- Surveillance data is well established and standardized (CDC methodology)
- Service provided by every county in the state
- Strong finance and service data systems to support service delivery
- Florida has high AND increasing rates of STDs – major public health issue!



# Overall Cost Model





# Data Sources

## Secondary Data

- Financial Information Reporting System (FIRS) – expenditure data
- Employee Activity Report System (EARS) – employee time allocation per cost center or activity.
- Patient Reporting Investigation Surveillance Manager (PRISM) – case management and surveillance tracking system for STDs



# Data Sources

## Primary Data

Verifying and clarifying 2<sup>o</sup> data issues

- 1) Verify staff time allocation in EARS with sample of small, medium and large CHDs
- 2) Surveys to CHDs
  - to identify unique services or variation in service delivery
  - To fill in gaps from 2<sup>o</sup> data analysis
- 3) Interviews with key informants to discuss and clarify findings





# Analysis

Outcome variable – STD unit cost (by county)

Possible Predictors

- County characteristics:
  - Population size
  - STI rates
  - % uninsured
  - % nonwhite
  - % 24 or under
- CHD characteristics:
  - Additional funding from county
  - # DIS staff



# Other Considerations

- Trends in funding of services and disease rates
- Cost savings due to early detection and treatment, especially for pregnancies (mandatory testing with opt out option).



# Policy/Practice Implications

- Understand what service components are the most costly (outreach, testing, treatment, etc.) and why
- Evaluate funding distribution and priorities for STD services by county
- Re-evaluate processes and procedures to reduce costs and increase value