PROPOSED RESCISSION OF 105 CMR 340.000: REPORTING AND CONTROL OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES (STDS)

Public Health Council
January 13, 2016

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Background

- 105 CMR 340.000 was established in 1917 to authorize STD services and reporting of STDs to the Department.
- At the time existing disease reporting regulations did not include STDs
- In 1964, *comprehensive* disease reporting regulations were implemented - *105 CMR 300.000: Reportable Diseases, Surveillance, and Isolation and Quarantine Requirements* was established.
- 105 CMR 340.000 is duplicative of the reporting and surveillance requirements found in 105 CMR 300.000.

Reasons to Rescind

- Rescission of 105 CMR 340.000 allows those individuals, facilities, and local boards of health who must report certain diseases to the Department to have guidance and direction from one comprehensive regulation.
- DPH maintains authority to receive reports of and monitor STDs across the Commonwealth through surveillance of all reportable diseases via *105 CMR 300.000 – Reportable Diseases, Surveillance, and Isolation and Quarantine Requirements.*
- 105 CMR 300.000 is a comprehensive regulation that monitors disease trends and maintains the public's health through centralized reporting and surveillance of infectious diseases by certain entities, such as local boards of health, hospitals, and laboratories, through the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN) to DPH.
- This regulation encompasses requirements for all reportable diseases, including those for STDs currently contained within 105 CMR 340.000.

Recommendation/Next Steps

- Bureau of Infectious Disease has conducted a comprehensive review of 105 CMR 340.000: Reporting and Control of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and recommends rescission.
- Following this presentation to the Public Health Council, a public hearing and comment period will be held.
- Following review of public comments, rescission will likely be requested at a subsequent meeting of the Public Health Council.