



Kathleen E. Toomey, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner

Brian Kemp, Governor

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**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS**  
Revisions to Chapter 511-2-8  
“Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT)”

The Department of Public Health hereby adopts amendments to Rule 511-2-8, “Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT),” as provided in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking issued on July 20, 2022. This action is taken pursuant to the Department’s authority under Georgia Code Sections 31-2A-6 and 31-17-17.7(e).

In accordance with Georgia Code Section 31-5-1, the above-listed amendments will take effect on September 21, 2022.

This 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Kathleen E. Toomey'.

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Kathleen E. Toomey, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner  
Georgia Department of Public Health

**RULES OF  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**CHAPTER 511-2  
DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL**

**511-2-8  
EXPEDITED PARTNER THERAPY (EPT)**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**511-2-8-.01 Definitions**

**511-2-8-.02 Expedited partner therapy authorized**

### **Rule 511-2-8-.01 Definitions**

- (1) "Expedited partner therapy" or EPT means the practice of prescribing, ordering, or dispensing antibiotic drugs to the sexual partner or partners of an index patient diagnosed with chlamydia and/or gonorrhea, without a physical examination of such partner or partners.
- (2) "Index patient" means a person who has been diagnosed as infected with chlamydia and/or gonorrhea, and who is not concurrently infected with syphilis or HIV.
- (3) "Licensed practitioner" means any of the following persons:
  - (a) A physician licensed to practice medicine in this state;
  - (b) An advanced practice nurse or physician assistant acting pursuant to authority delegated by a licensed physician in accordance with Code Section 43-34-23 or 43-34-25 or 43-34-103(e.1); or
  - (c) A registered professional nurse employed by the Department, or by a county board of health.
- (4) "Partner" means a person who was or may have been exposed to chlamydia and/or gonorrhea by the index patient.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 31-2A-6 and 31-17-7.1.

### **Rule 511-2-8-.02 Expedited partner therapy authorized**

- (1) A licensed practitioner with prescriptive authority may write an EPT prescription for a drug that has been determined by the Department to be appropriate for EPT treatment of chlamydia and/or gonorrhea.
- (2) The current roster of drugs appropriate for EPT treatment of chlamydia and gonorrhea shall be listed in the Department's current "Expedited Partner Therapy Guidance for Healthcare Professionals" and shall also be posted on the Department's website.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 31-2A-6 and 31-17-7.1.