



Marion County
OREGON
Health & Human Services

To:
Fax number:

From: Marion County Health & Human Services
Fax number: (503) 566-2920

ALERT

**COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO
HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS**

Date: **5/20/2021**

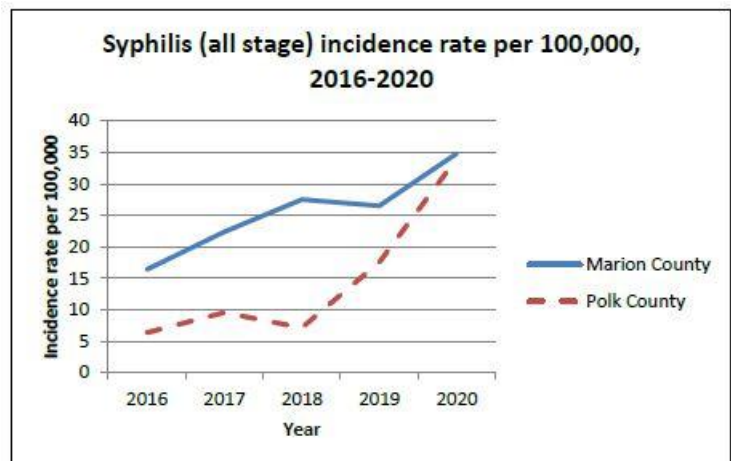
Regarding: OHA report shows increase in
congenital syphilis in Oregon

Phone number for follow-up: (503) 588-5621

Providers:

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has released a new CD Summary highlighting congenital syphilis (CS). The report shows a dramatic increase in syphilis cases overall including the occurrence of CS in Oregon and in Marion County. In 2020, 121 cases of syphilis were reported in the county.

In order to prevent cases of CS, we need to reduce the amount of syphilis in the community and ensure pregnant women get screened for syphilis appropriately and treated adequately. We request all providers take the following preventive actions:



- Screen all pregnant women as early in pregnancy as possible, again at 28 weeks, and again at time of birth. Screen those at increased risk for reinfection as often as monthly.
- Screen any woman being tested for syphilis for pregnancy, and any woman being tested for pregnancy for syphilis.
- Screen anyone seeking care for STD symptoms, substance use-related concerns, or experiencing homelessness.
- Anyone presenting with genital lesions should be tested and presumptively treated for syphilis. People with syphilis symptoms are infectious and can pass the infection to others before they return for treatment.

Please review the report online at the following link, and the attached testing guidance. Link:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/HIVSTDVIRALHEPATITIS/SEXUALLYTRANSMITTEDDISEASE/Pages/Congenital-Syphilis.aspx>

If you have questions, please contact Marion County Public Health.

