

WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

Northeastern Center is ready to help with the specialized needs of our substance abuse clients.

Please consult with your case facilitator for additional information on Tuberculosis, Sexually Transmitted Disease, Intravenous Drug Use as well as available services for Pregnant and/or Minor Children.

Northeastern Center staff will work with you to address your questions and concerns.

To prevent the spread of infectious diseases, Northeastern Center coordinates with other agencies including the Board of Health.



Information was collected from a variety of sources for this pamphlet.

DeKalb Outpatient
(260) 925-2453
1800 Wesley Road
Auburn, IN 46706

LaGrange Outpatient
(260) 463-7144
2155 N. SR 9
LaGrange, IN 46761

Noble-Albion Outpatient
(260) 636-6975
833 E. Main St.
Albion, IN 46701

Noble-Kendallville Outpatient
(260) 347-4400
1930 East Dowling St.
Kendallville, IN 46755

Steuben Outpatient
(260) 665-9494
3205 Intertech Dr.
Angola, IN 46703

Case Management For Substance Abuse clients



CASE MANAGEMENT FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE CLIENTS

Introduction

Individuals that use alcohol and other drugs have a higher likelihood of contracting Tuberculosis (TB) and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs). When intravenous drug use occurs or the user is pregnant or has minor children, other needs may exist where NEC can help.

Tuberculosis

Substance Abuse Clients are at high risk for Tuberculosis (TB), an infectious disease that can attack the lungs. TB is spread from person-to-person through the air.

Symptoms that can occur include:

- Persistent cough
- Chronic fatigue
- Weight loss/loss of appetite
- Fever
- Coughing up blood
- Night sweats

If you have any of the symptoms listed above, it is important to discuss these with your Northeastern Center case facilitator. A simple skin test (Mantoux) will be administered to determine if you have been infected with the TB virus.



If a person tests positive for TB exposure, a chest x-ray is needed to determine if an individual has contracted the disease.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) include over 20 different diseases that can happen again and again, since the body can't build immunity and there is no vaccination against them. Substance Abuse clients can be at high risk for STDs, which are caused by sexual contact and can have serious results such as blindness, sterility and even death. Women and newborn babies are especially at risk.

The following diseases are all STDs:

- **Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)** is the virus that causes AIDS.
- **Hepatitis B (HBV)** is an infection of the liver. It is spread the same way as the AIDS virus
- **Chlamydia** is an infection in the urinary and reproductive organs.
- **Gonorrhea** is an infection which may or may not cause symptoms or make a person feel sick.
- **Syphilis** is one of the most dangerous STDs. It is also spread through sexual contact or through broken or cut skin.
- **Genital Herpes** is a disease with no cure. Symptoms are painful, blister-like sores that appear on the genitals or mouth.
- **Pubic Lice (crabs)** cause strong itching in the hairy areas of the genitals.

If you think you may have a Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD), talk to your case facilitator about getting immediate medical help. The sooner you get help, the less chance there is of permanent damage. If you have an STD, don't be embarrassed, you need to:

- Tell all sexual partners
- Follow the medical advice of your doctor
- Stop sex until treated

IV drug use

IV drug use increases the risk of HIV, Hepatitis C and STD's.



Safe practices include:

- Abstain from IV drug use
- Don't share needles
- Get involved in a local needle exchange program
- Join a support group

Your Northeastern Center case facilitator can assist you in seeking out treatment options,

Pregnant and/or Minor Children

Prenatal care and immunizations are essential for the health and well-being of children.

Prenatal and childcare needs are assessed during the admission process.

When needs are identified, your case facilitator will assist you in removing barriers to prenatal care and immunizations.

