

# Gonococcal Infections

This is a PDF version of the following document:

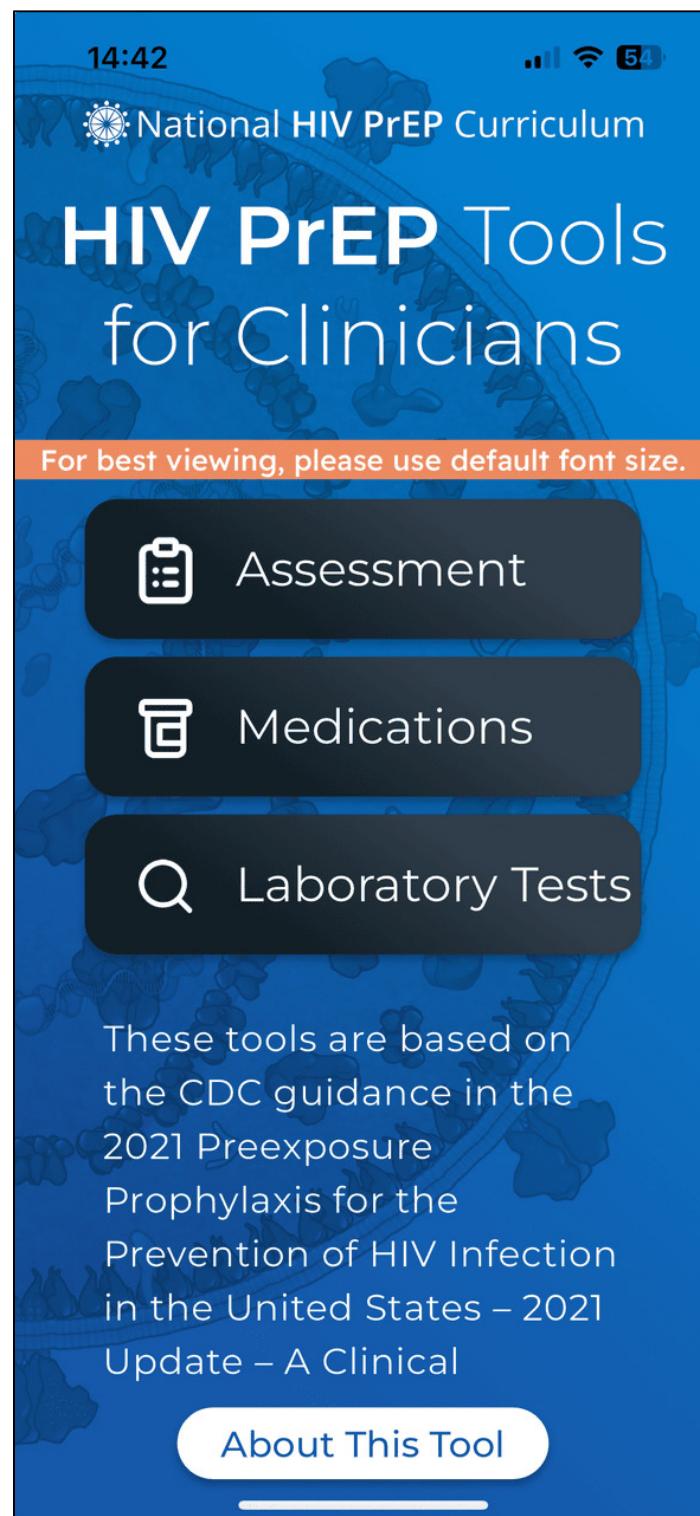
Module 1: [STD Question Bank](#)  
Lesson 8: [Gonococcal Infections](#)

You can always find the most up-to-date version of this document at  
<https://www.std.uw.edu/go/2021-guidelines/gonorrhea-qb/core-concept/all>.

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## Figures

**Figure 1** **IMG\_DF4C1CD3B91F-1**



**Table 1. 2021 STI Treatment Guidelines: Gonococcal Infections**  
**Treatment of Gonococcal Ophthalmia Neonatorum**

**Recommended for Treatment of Gonococcal Ophthalmia Neonatorum**

**Ceftriaxone**

*25-50 mg/kg body weight IV or IM in a single dose, not to exceed 250 mg*

One dose of ceftriaxone is adequate therapy for gonococcal ophthalmia. Ceftriaxone should be administered cautiously to neonates with hyperbilirubinemia, especially those born prematurely. Cefotaxime 100 mg/kg body weight IV or IM as a single dose can be administered for those neonates unable to receive ceftriaxone because of simultaneous administration of IV calcium. Topical antibiotic therapy alone is inadequate and unnecessary if systemic treatment is administered.

Source: Workowski KA, Bachmann LH, Chan PA, et al. Sexually transmitted infections treatment guidelines, 2021. Gonococcal infections. MMWR Recomm Rep. 2021;70(No. RR-4):1-187. [\[2021 STI Treatment Guidelines\]](#)

**Table 2. 2021 STI Treatment Guidelines: Gonococcal Infections  
Prevention of Ophthalmia Neonatorum Caused by *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*****Recommended for Prevention of Ophthalmia Neonatorum Caused by *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*****Erythromycin**

*0.5% ophthalmic ointment in each eye in a single application at birth*

Note: Erythromycin ophthalmic ointment should be instilled into both eyes of neonates as soon as possible after delivery, regardless of whether they are delivered vaginally or by cesarean delivery. Ideally, ointment should be applied by using single-use tubes or ampules rather than multiple-use tubes.

Source: Workowski KA, Bachmann LH, Chan PA, et al. Sexually transmitted infections treatment guidelines, 2021. Gonococcal infections. MMWR Recomm Rep. 2021;70(No. RR-4):1-187. [\[2021 STI Treatment Guidelines\]](#)

