11 October 2013

Dear colleagues,

We write to inform you that, from now on, updated Chlamydia Testing Activity Dataset (CTAD) data resubmitted to Public Health England (PHE) will be made available via the PHE HIV & STI Web Portal. This will enable the production of revised diagnostic rates, based on the most recent data.

**CTAD Quality**

As with any surveillance system, CTAD data quality is vital. Reporting high quality data through CTAD is key to informing local sexual health service planning, assessing the impact of the National Chlamydia Screening Programme (NCSP) and monitoring progress towards the *Public Health Outcomes Framework* chlamydia diagnosis rate indicator.

Analyses have identified that, in some areas, data reporting of *Patient Residence Postcode* and *Testing Service Type* is incomplete. This is limiting the accuracy of CTAD outputs at the most local level. For example, records where *Patient Residence Postcode* is missing may be allocated to the local authority in which the laboratory or screening service is located, rather than to the local authority where the person being tested resides.

As such, areas that have submitted data with these items incomplete are encouraged to improve completeness and re-submit. Areas can check the quality of submitted data via laboratory data completeness reports available on the HIV & STI Web Portal.

**Data Refreshing: Updated Quarterly Outputs to be made Available via HIV & STI Web Portal**

Previously, updated retrospective data resubmitted to PHE have only been published in the end of year CTAD annual report. However, moving forward, areas that resubmit data will be able to see these results, on a quarterly basis, via the HIV & STI Web Portal.

Areas will be able to re-submit historical CTAD data covering Q1 2012 – Q2 2013 (01/01/2012-30/06/2013), and moving forward, future quarterly data. Key points to note:

- Resubmissions of data will overwrite any previous submissions received
- As usual, any updates to data must be submitted as a quarter (i.e. files for individual quarters must be uploaded, rather than one file for multiple quarters).
- We request labs inform the CTAD team they intend to resubmit updated retrospective data, prior to uploading it
- From mid-October 2013 onwards, HIV & STI Web Portal reports and graphs reflecting updated data will be available
- Moving forward, 2013 data will continue to be updated on the Portal to reflect any resubmissions (e.g. Q1 and Q2 2013 will be updated on the Portal when Q3 2013 publishes).

Across the year, CTAD quarterly data reports will also continue to be published on [NCSP website](http://www.ncsp.org.uk). However, unlike the data available on the HIV & STI Web Portal, these will not be updated with resubmitted data. These reports will thus provide a historical record against which improved diagnostic rate data, available through the Portal, can be compared. However, a fully updated 2012 CTAD annual report will be published on the NCSP website, alongside the 2013 annual report, due in Q2 2014.
User-Generated Reports via the HIV & STI Web Portal
The HIV & STI Web Portal offers registered users access to various CTAD reporting tools including updated diagnostic rates for their local authority. It can be accessed via: https://www.hpawebservices.org.uk/HIV_STI_WebPortal/Login.aspx

Available graphs:
• Number of tests and proportion positive
• Percentage coverage
• Diagnosis rate per 100,000 population

Available reports:
• Laboratory completeness report - highlighting quality / completeness of each variable (based on raw CTAD data). Raw data are not comparable with published data.
• Detailed local chlamydia reports - based on combined, cleaned CTAD and GUMCAD data (except for specimen type and geographical information) as published on PHE and NCSP websites
• Cumulative reports based on (updated) multiple quarters.

We hope that, by providing stakeholders with the opportunity to improve historical data and see the effect of their resubmissions on diagnostic rates, local data accuracy will be improved where necessary. If you have any queries relating to resubmission of CTAD data or the HIV & STI Web Portal, please contact the CTAD team by email ctad@phe.gov.uk or call 020 8327 6468.

Best wishes,
CTAD team