

2016 Survey of STD Care Providers Policies and Practices

Client: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Overview

Insight partnered with ICF International to update a 1999 survey of physicians providing healthcare related to sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), cognitively test and pilot the new version, and disseminate the survey to a nationally representative sample of physicians across the United States. The 2016 Survey of STD Care Providers Policies and Practices aimed to enhance the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) understanding of physician practices, opinions, and recommendations regarding STD diagnosis, treatment, reporting, and infection control practices. Specialties targeted for recruitment were internal medicine, general medicine/family practice, obstetrics and gynecology, emergency medicine, and pediatrics.

CDC's Division of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention commissioned this survey to inform physicians' knowledge of healthcare practices related to STD policy issues affected by the following factors:

- The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010
- Passage of laws authorizing expedited treatment for sexual partners of patients with STDs
- CDC's 2015 update of STD Treatment Guidelines

The updated guidelines provided recommendations for addressing antimicrobial-resistant gonorrhea, one of the most urgent concerns in STD care and treatment.

For the 2016 survey, Insight—

- Provided subject matter expertise on the development of the survey instrument



- Designed an interview protocol for cognitive testing of the instrument
- Recruited and scheduled physicians to participate in two rounds of cognitive testing
- Conducted cognitive interviews with physicians and recorded results
- Analyzed qualitative data from interviews and discussed the results with CDC
- Modified the survey based on results and discussions prior to implementing a second round of cognitive testing with a new group of physicians
- Conducted a final analysis of the overall cognitive testing process
- Developed a report detailing the cognitive testing methodology, results, and recommendations
- Recruited physicians to participate in a pilot test of an online version and a paper version of the survey mailed to respondents

Products

Final report, *2016 STD Care Provider Questionnaire: Cognitive Interview Results* (April 2016)