

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health • Epidemiology Section HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch

1902 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1902 Tel 919-733-7301 • Fax 919-733-1020

Michael F. Easley, Governor Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary Leah Devlin, DDS, MPH State Health Director

January 31, 2007

- TO: Local Health Directors Nursing Directors Managers/Supervisors for STD Services Agencies Receiving STD Drugs from the HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch
- FROM: Peter Leone, MD Medical Director HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch
- THROUGH: Evelyn Foust, Head HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch
- SUBJECT: State Supplied Generic Acyclovir for Genital Herpes

Effective March 1, 2007, The HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch (Branch) will add Acyclovir to the NC STD Drug Formulary. Agencies currently receiving STD drugs will be able to order Acyclovir for the treatment of genital herpes infection.

The recommended regimen for patients presenting with an initial clinical episode is Acyclovir 400 mg po tid for 7-10 days. Providers may extend treatment if healing is incomplete after 10 days of therapy. The recommendation for recurrent infection is Acyclovir 800 mg po tid 2 days. Providers may also prescribe Acyclovir 400 mg po bid for an additional 120 days of suppressive therapy.

Local health departments wishing to supply suppressive therapy beyond this 120 day period may purchase additional Acyclovir at PHS pricing (\$2.40 per month). The Branch recommends that local health departments utilize Section 340B PHS pricing. Interested health departments can register by going to the HRSA Pharmacy Services Support Center (PSSC) web site at <u>http://pssc.aphanet.org/about/whatisthe340b.htm</u>. This web site provides step by step instructions on how to register for the outpatient discount drug pricing program. STD Clinics generally fall under section (J).

For additional information on state supplied Acyclovir, please contact Rick Hedenquist with the STD Drug Program at 919-733-2030 ext 51 or rick.hedenquist@ncmail.net.



