

9928

DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALIST 1

Nature of Work

Under general supervision, performs full-performance level work involving the identification and location of high-priority sexually transmitted disease (STD) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) cases, contacts, and associates through field investigations to ensure rapid examination and treatment of those at risk. These positions conduct personal interviews and field and internet investigations to obtain case-related information while maintaining strict patient confidentiality. These positions explain the disease process, treatment, prevention, and legal requirements; provides education, consultation, and technical assistance to health department staff. Responsible for a specific geographic area which may encompass more than one county. Works with a considerable degree of independence. Work is reviewed through reports and conferences with the supervisor. Considerable travel is required of this position. Performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics

These positions function at the full-performance level by investigating patients with diseases, ensuring they receive adequate treatment according to established guidelines. These positions recommend treatments for infected individuals, and provide prevention education to at-risk patients, students, medical staff, community groups, and the general public.

Examples of Work

Interviews and/or re-interviews patients, contacts, and associates to complete medical history, elicits contact and suspect information in order to locate disease source, and determines additional testing and treatment needs for positive patients.

Maintains regular contact with private physicians, laboratory personnel, and state and local health department personnel to improve case reporting and obtain diagnostic and/or treatment information on cases.

Conducts testing for detection of STDs and HIV; provides HIV Rapid Testing and PrEP Education.

Maintains a high level of confidentiality when dealing with client records and in all aspects of STD/HIV work.

Participates in or advises local health departments or health providers in investigation of unusual STD/HIV studies, including outbreak or cluster investigations, standardized interviews of cases, and control methods.

Performs Internet Partner Services (IPS) using IPS protocol and guidelines when appropriate and when all other locating methods have been exhausted.

Gives educational presentations to professional groups, lay groups, and civic groups interested and involved in the eradication of STDs/HIV; secures and disseminates information and educational materials to local health departments, private physicians, public and civic organizations, and to the general public.

Maintains thorough records and prepares required reports.

May train others, such as local health personnel, in conducting case investigations and treatment guidelines for STD/HIV health conditions, diseases, health risk factors, and health behaviors.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Knowledge of the historical development of and the management techniques and practices applied to the control and prevention of STDs/HIV.

Knowledge of diagnostic procedures and treatment schedule recommendations for STDs/HIV.

9928

DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALIST 1 (cont'd)

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (cont'd)

Knowledge of principles and practices of specific investigative methods and interviewing and supportive counseling techniques.

Knowledge of and ability to use various social media platforms.

Ability to conduct sensitive interviews, investigations, surveys, and visits to obtain contact and suspect information in order to locate the STDs/HIV source and make referral for treatment.

Ability to interpret and apply federal, state, and local public health laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to STDs/HIV.

Ability to establish effective working relationships with clients, private physicians, laboratory personnel, schools, and local and state health department personnel.

Ability to present information and express ideas clearly and concisely to both professional and lay groups and individuals.

Ability to collect blood and/or saliva samples and to read and interpret lab test results.

Minimum Qualifications

Training: Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

Substitution: Experience as described below may substitute on a year-for-year basis for the required training.

Experience: Two (2) years of full-time or equivalent part-time paid professional experience in STD/HIV control, nursing, or social services and/or public health case management and case investigation.

Special Requirement: A valid driver's license and the availability of an automobile is required. A Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificate for laboratory testing may be required.

Promotional Only: One (1) year of full-time or equivalent part-time paid professional experience as a Disease Intervention Specialist Trainee may substitute for the required training and experience.

Established: 08/20/1992

Revised: 03/14/1994; 01/19/1995; 11/10/2018

Effective: 11/10/2018