

***Ikajurniq: An Inuit
Cascade of Care
Framework for Sexually
Transmitted & Blood
Borne Infections***



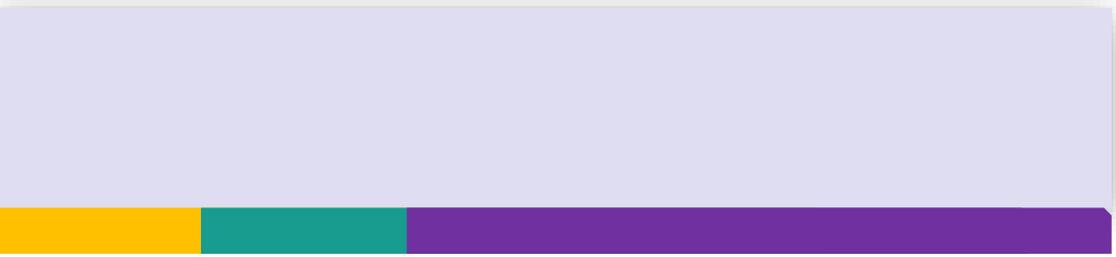
Canadian Public Health Association
Ottawa, Ontario
May 1, 2019

www.pauktuutit.ca

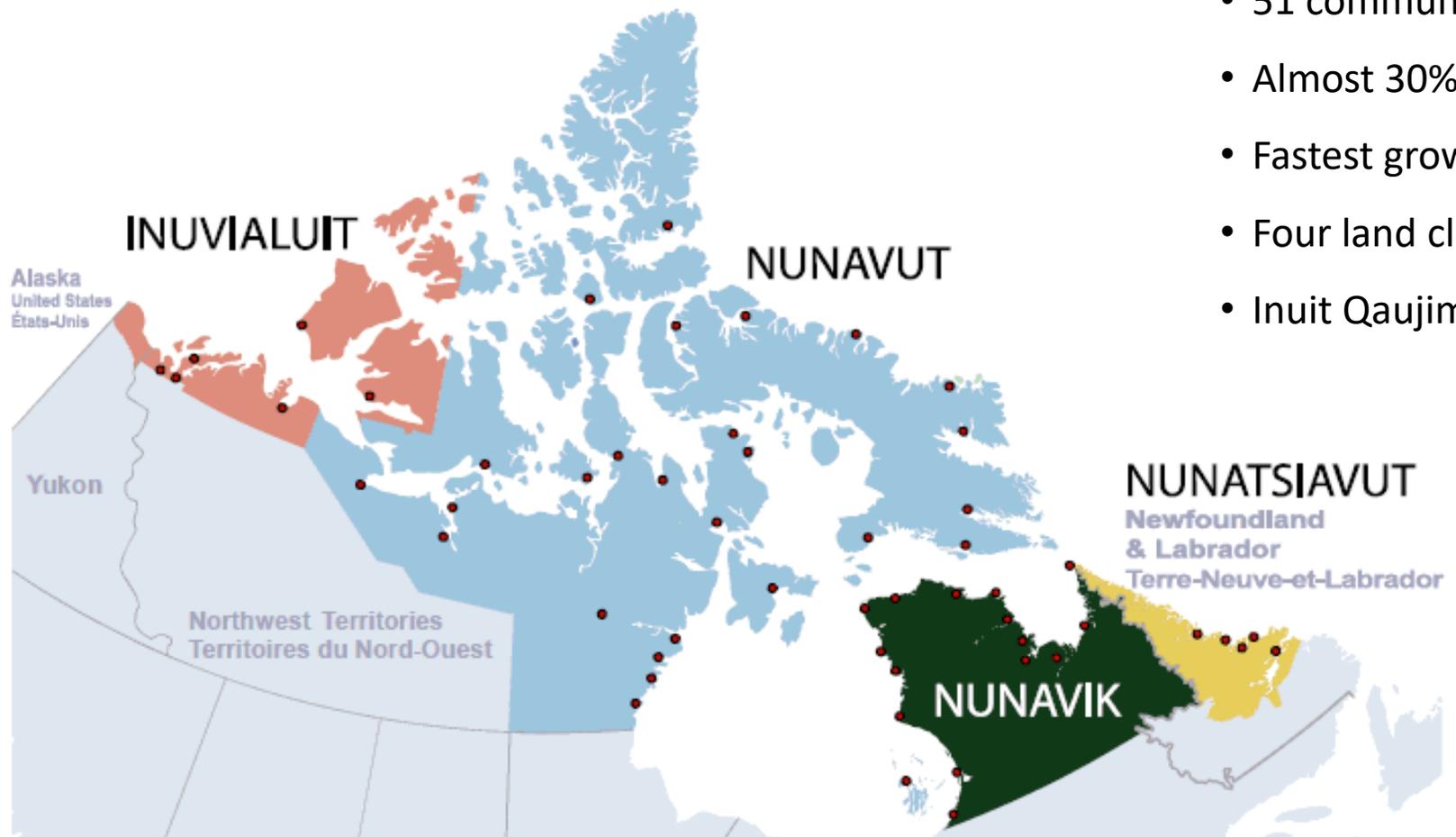
- I have no affiliation (financial or otherwise) with a pharmaceutical, medical device or communications organization.

Pauktuutit is the national representative organization of Inuit women in Canada. We foster greater awareness of the needs of Inuit women, advocate for equality and social improvements, and encourage the full participation of Inuit women in their communities, regions and the national life of Canada.





- Traditionally nomadic across the Arctic
- Residential Schools
- Forced relocation
- Today there are over 65,000 Inuit in Canada
- 51 communities across the Arctic
- Almost 30% of Inuit have moved to urban centers
- Fastest growing population in Canada
- Four land claim regions
- Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ)



Improving the health status of Inuit women and their families has been a priority since Pauktuutit’s incorporation in 1984. The Territories have the highest rates of violence in the country, meaning that for Inuit women violence and abuse are significant physical and mental health issues. In response to direction provided by its membership and Board of Directors, Pauktuutit has implemented numerous successful health prevention and promotion projects on issues including maternal child health and midwifery, tobacco cessation, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, FASD, early childhood development, injury prevention, cancer, health research and others.

Conversation starters for kids 7 and under:

It's normal for little kids to touch themselves in public. Quietly let them know it should be done in private.

Tell them their body belongs to them. Let them know the difference between safe and unsafe touches.

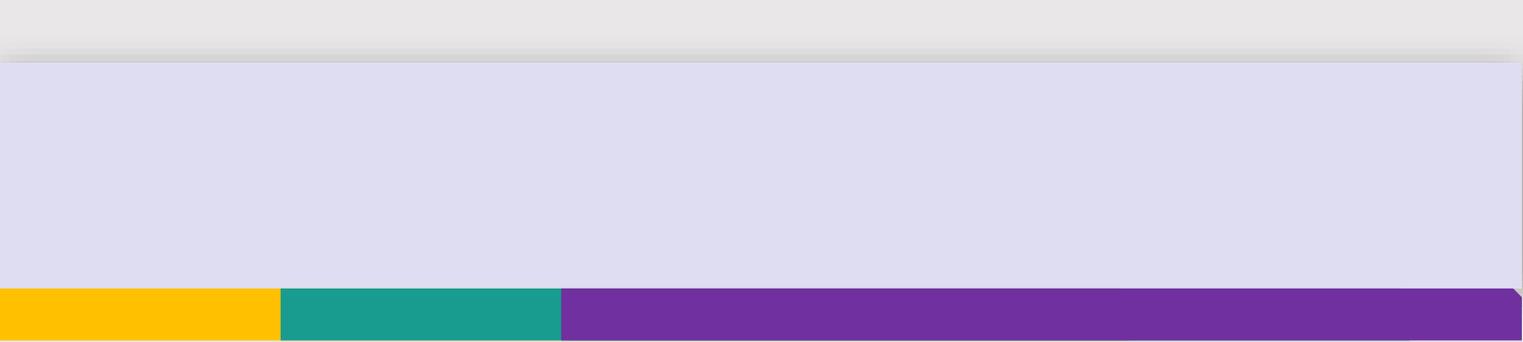
Use the right words for their bodies. Tell them they have a bum and that girls have a vagina and boys have a penis.



Pauktuutit's Health department has a mandate to focus on the following priority items:

- Sexual Health
 - Talking to youth about STBBI's
 - Inuit community readiness research on HIV/AIDS
- Reproductive Health
 - Community wellness models on cervical cancer
- Cancer
- Cannabis



- 
- Myrna Matheson – Government of the NWT
 - Suzanne Schwartz – Government of Nunavut
 - Robert Akpik – Quality of Life Secretariat
 - Dr. Veronique Morin – Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services
 - Sylvia Doody – Nunatsiavut Government
 - Dr. Ameeta Singh – University of Alberta
 - Connie Siedule – Akausivik Inuit Family Health Team
 - Maxime Lamoureux
 - Shylah Elliot – Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

:An Inuit Cascade of Care

AN INUIT CASCADE OF CARE FRAMEWORK FOR
SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED & BLOOD BORNE INFECTIONS

IKAJURNIQ 2018

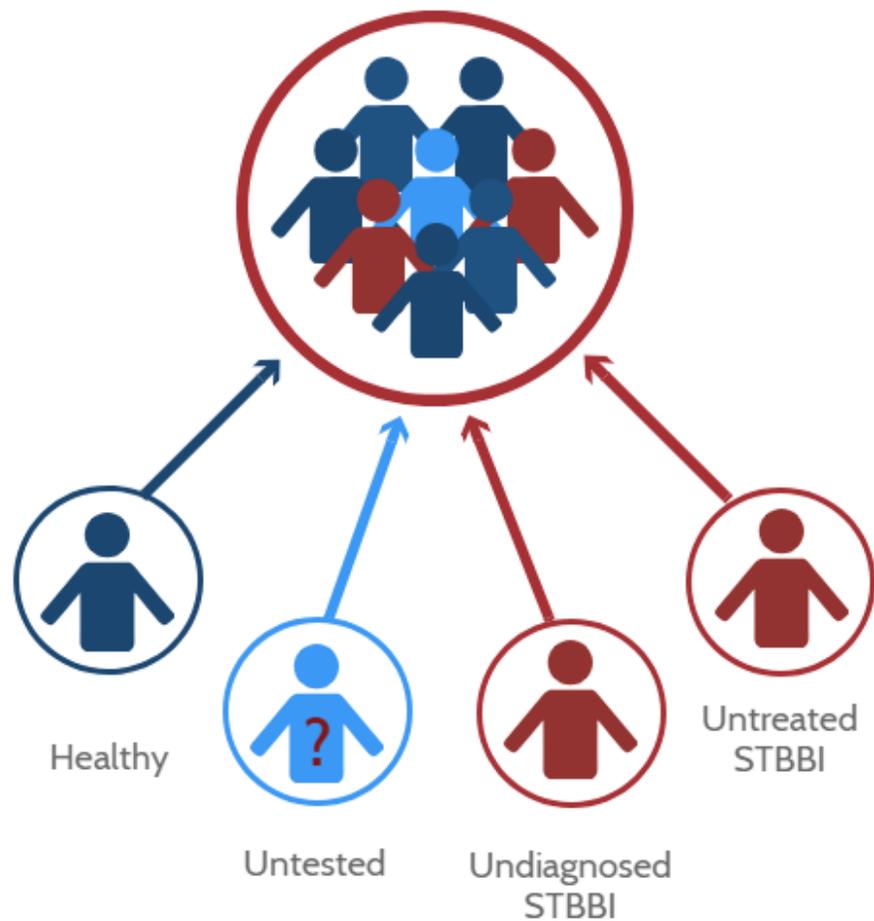
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- ᐃᑭᐱᐳᑦ: Ikajurniq - The “act of helping”
- Best practices in prevention and treatment
- Challenges and known enablers
- Applied in Inuit communities
- STBBIs significantly reduced

Sample Inuit Community



Inuit that have a STBBI that do not complete the cascade of care will continue to carry the STBBI and may spread the infection.

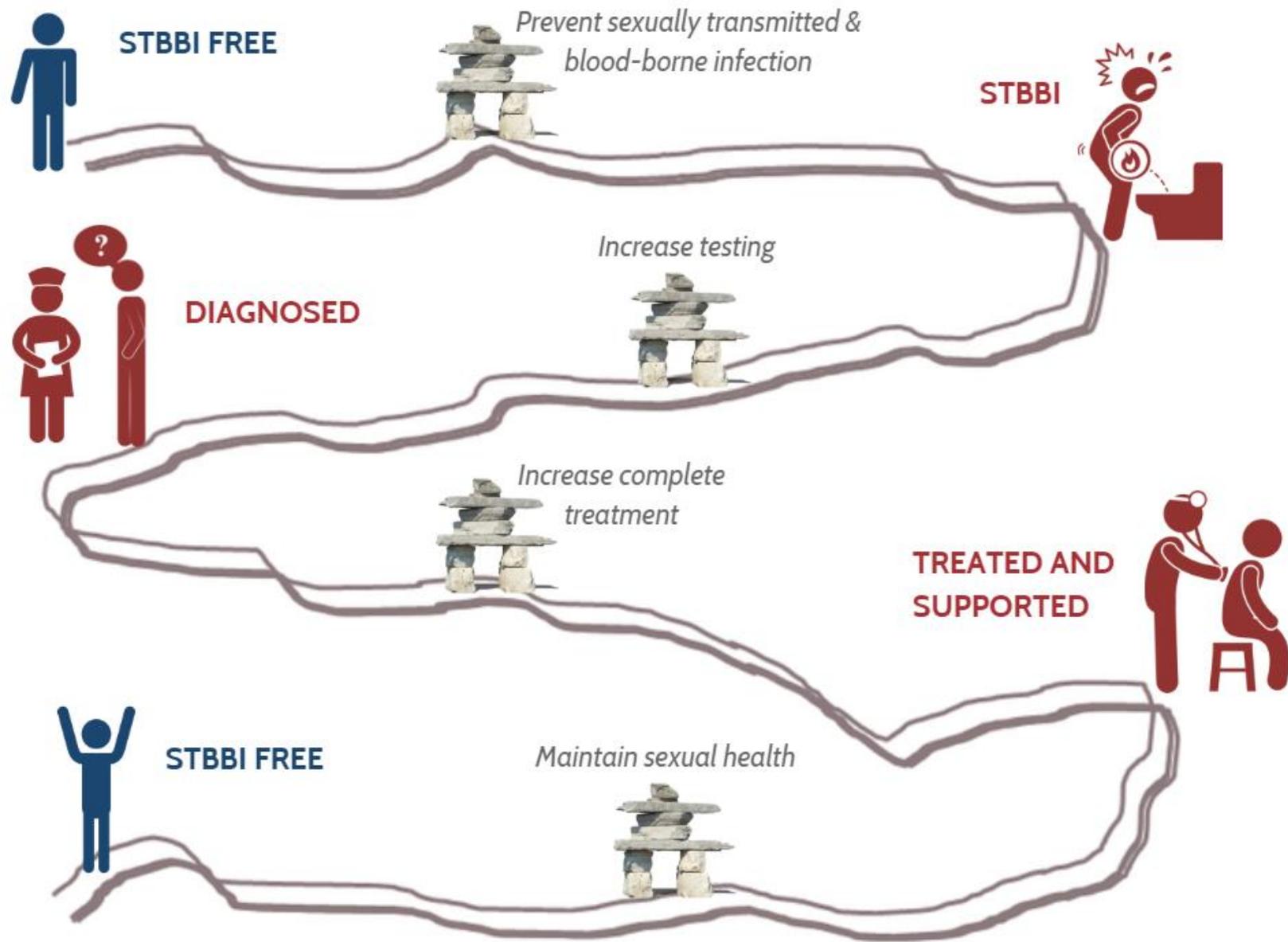
FIGURE 1

Sample Inuit Community



Inuit that complete the cascade of care are more likely to return to full sexual health. The full details of the cascade are found in Figure 3.

FIGURE 2



An Inuit-specific STBBI cascade of care that builds on the best practices in prevention and treatment of STBBIs in Canada. It recognizes both the particular challenges and the known enablers in reaching, testing and treating Inuit with STBBIs in northern communities.

FIGURE 3



STBBI Prevention

- Sexual health literacy
- Reducing risk-taking behaviours

From Having and STBBI to Being Diagnosed

- Social norms and attitudes towards STBBIs
- Reducing stigma
- Confidentiality
- Access to testing



2017

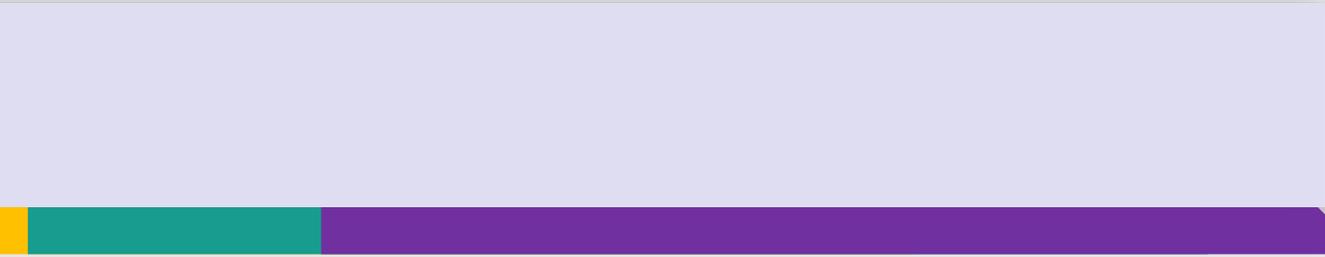
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National Inuit Sexual Health Strategy



From Diagnosis to Treatment

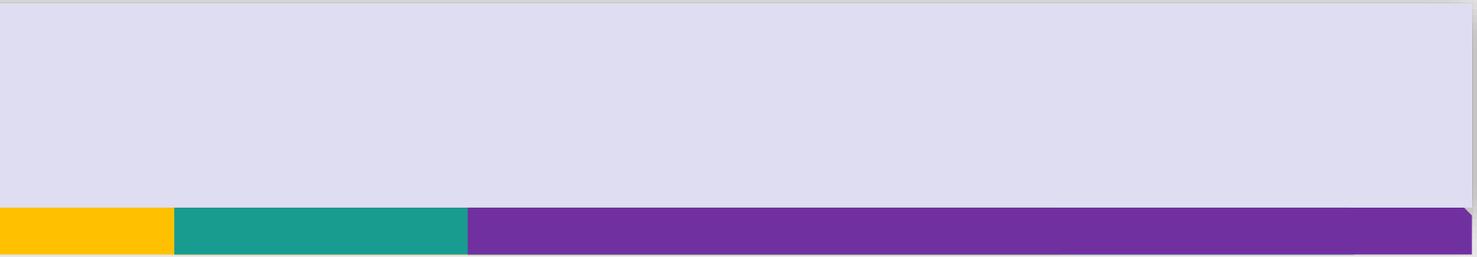
- Practitioner knowledge
- Getting results and authorizing treatment
- Reaching patients quickly
- Tracing contacts
- Preventing reinfection
- Other health issues



Overarching Considerations

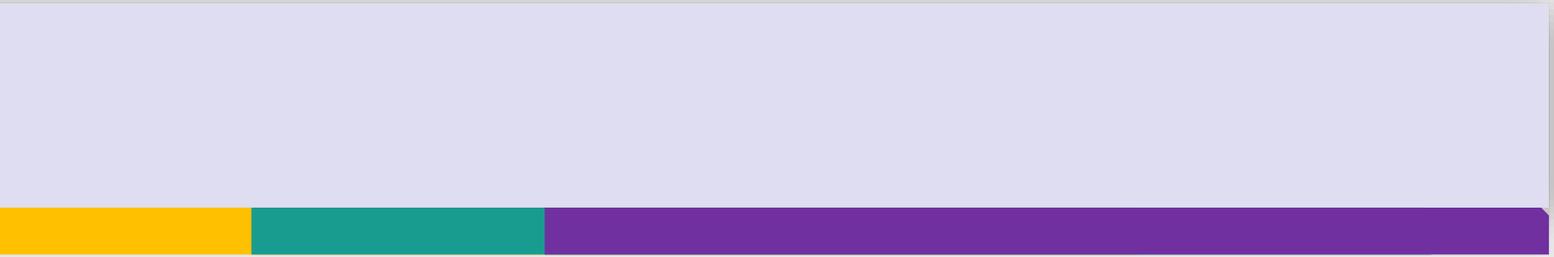
- Access to health care
- Culturally safe services
- Trauma
- Self-care

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- Community consultations on the Inuit Cascade of Care Framework
 - Iqaluit, Nunavut
 - Kuujjuaq, Nunavik
 - Inuvik, NWT
 - Nunatsiavut
 - Validated and Enhanced Inuit Cascade of Care Framework



Recommended Policies and Practices include:

- Reassessing the use of health resources and ensuring outreach, testing and treatment for STBBIs are high priorities in Canada's Inuit regions
- Developing integrated, holistic health programs
- Adopting approaches that address trauma among Inuit
- Using peer educators, health apps and social media to reach those at-risk
- Conduct media campaigns, delivering school education and providing non-judgmental health care



Recommended Policies and Practices include:

- Applying strict confidentiality protocols
- Expanding access to testing
- Deliver regular professional development training specific to STBBIs
- Treating suspected STIs based on symptoms
- Maintaining contact with patients throughout the testing and treatment cycle
- Providing timely contact follow-up
- Offering patient-centered counselling and support
- Following up-to-date protocols

