

CITY OF BALTIMORE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Correction: Report on Expedited Partner Therapy

Baltimore, MD (January 30, 2009) – On January 8, 2009, the Baltimore City Health Department’s Sexually Transmitted Disease Program released an interim report on the expedited partner therapy program. The report found that the rate of reinfection with gonorrhea or chlamydia in patients participating in the effort was 41% lower than that experienced by a comparison group of patients from the previous year. The report described this difference as “statistically significant.”

Statistical significance is generally defined as a difference that is less than 5% likely to be due to chance. Review of the January 8 report found that the difference in this case was approximately 10% likely to be due to chance. It is still likely that the difference was not due to chance.

“We remain confident that the expedited partner therapy program is working in Baltimore City,” said Dr. Emily J. Erbelding, chief of clinical services of the Sexually Transmitted Disease Program.

A corrected version of the report is online at <http://www.baltimorehealth.org>. The Health Department is planning a more comprehensive review of the expedited partner therapy program in 2009.

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