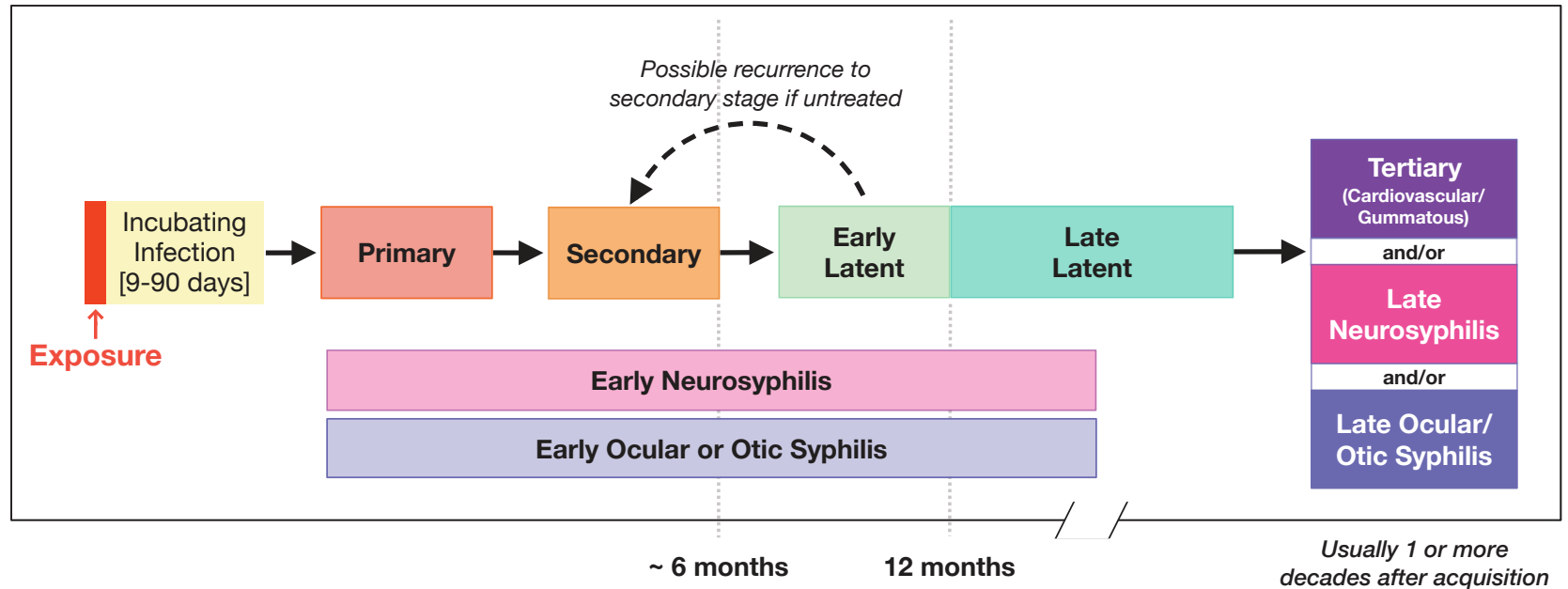


The Diagnosis, Management and Prevention of Syphilis

Adapted from New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Infections and the New York City STD Prevention Training Center (2019). The Diagnosis, Management and Prevention of Syphilis — An Update and Review.

National Network of STD Clinical Prevention Training Centers online clinician-to-clinician STD consultation: <https://www.stdccn.org/>

Syphilis Staging Reference



December 2019

Primary and Secondary Syphilis RPR Retesting & Follow-up for People with HIV:

- Every 3 months for 1 year and once again 2 years posttreatment (ie, 3, 6, 9, 12, and 24 months following treatment).

Early Latent, Late Latent, & Latent of Unknown Duration Syphilis RPR Retesting & Follow-up:

- Every 6 months for 2 years posttreatment (ie, 6, 12, 18, and 24 months following treatment).

¹ CDC. Sexually Transmitted Diseases - Summary of 2015 CDC Treatment Guidelines. [CDC.gov/std/tg2015/2015-pocket-guide.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/2015-pocket-guide.pdf)

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Syphilis¹

	Recommended Rx	Dose/Route	Alternatives
• Primary, secondary, or early latent <1 year	benzathine penicillin G	2.4 million units IM in a single dose	doxycycline 100mg 2x/day for 14 days OR tetracycline 500mg orally 4x/day for 14 days
• Latent >1 year, latent of unknown duration	benzathine penicillin G	2.4 million units IM in 3 doses each at 1 week intervals (7.2 million units total)	doxycycline 100mg 2x/day for 28 days OR tetracycline 500mg orally 4x/day for 28 days
• Pregnancy	See complete CDC guidelines.		
• Neurosyphilis	aqueous crystalline penicillin G	18-24 million units per day, administered as 3-4 million units IV every 4 hours or continuous infusion, for 10-14 days	procaine penicillin G 2.4 MU IM 1x daily PLUS probenecid 500 mg orally 4x/day, both for 10-14 days
• Congenital syphilis	See complete CDC guidelines.		
• Children: Primary, secondary, or early latent <1year	benzathine penicillin G	50,000 units/kg IM in a single dose (maximum 2.4 million units)	
• Children: Latent >1 year, or unknown duration Latent	benzathine penicillin G	50,000 units/kg IM for 3 doses at 1 week intervals (maximum total 7.2 million units)	

See CDC STD Treatment guidelines for discussion of alternative therapy in patients with penicillin allergy