



South Dakota  
Department of  
**Social Services**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

DIVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES  
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July 29, 2022

**Attention: South Dakota Medicaid Providers**  
**From: South Dakota Medicaid**  
**RE: Reducing an Unprecedented Rise in Syphilis Rates**

Dear Medicaid Providers,

In 2021, South Dakota had 874 syphilis infections (1050% 5-year median increase) and 16 congenital and four syphilitic stillbirths (700% 5-year median increase). The SD Department of Health has released a comprehensive explanation of risk factors, screening/treatment recommendations, and how local Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) can assist. The full report can be found [here](#) along with [infographics](#).

We would also like to remind providers that South Dakota Medicaid covers testing and treatment for syphilis. For more information on covered services please refer to the linked [billing manual](#).

Sincerely,

South Dakota Medicaid