

### **SOCIAL HYGIENE TECHNICIAN**

**DEFINITION:** Under general supervision, performs paraprofessional technical duties of moderate difficulty through testing and other epidemiological techniques; and performs related work as assigned.

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:** This list is ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY and is not a comprehensive listing of all functions and tasks performed by incumbents of this class.

#### **TASKS:**

Consults with persons suspected of infection, contact to infection, or otherwise associated with a Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) for purposes of confidential case management, under supervision of qualified medical authority; performs tests that may assist physicians in determining proper medical specimen, records and other information for eventual field investigation, medical examination and epidemiological disposition of suspect person; picks up positive laboratory results for STDs; conducts field investigations.

Requests client charts for review and follow-up to see if client was treated for a STD, recommends client for testing, determines detection and location information for home visits and final disposition of epidemiological forms; initiates case records for clients; contacts suspects and associates; follows up on recommendations; sends letters to client; provides client care, schedules appointments and ensures that client is taking medication correctly; may transport client to and from appointments and to other services providers when needed; conducts home visits; reviews health charts in field clinics; may reassign client to other service units for field coverage.

Locates and contacts partners/contacts/suspects; reviews laboratory results with client and counsels client; provides STD education, the dangers, causes and how STD is transmitted; refers client for exam/treatment; collects blood specimens for Rapid Regimen Plasma (RRP) and HIV testing; consults with STDs medical officer, physician, and nurse to recommend treatment and proper examinations, and to discuss any complicated cases; provides HIV client services counseling; provides health education; attends workshops, training sessions and seminars.

#### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS:**

- Knowledge of the various methods of providing services to STD patients.
- Knowledge of the principles and practices of providing health education and STD services.
- Knowledge of communicable diseases and how they can be prevented.
- Knowledge of the various locations throughout the Navajo Nation where clients may receive services.
- Knowledge of the effects of STDs on clients and their families.
- Knowledge of the confidentiality of records, files and other personal information.
- Skill in interacting with clients with STDs and HIV.
- Skill in providing counseling and care to STD clients.
- Skill in traveling great distances to achieve completion of the services provided.
- Skill in providing group presentations to students, the public, and HIV-AIDS clients.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT:** Work involves moderate effort in traveling throughout the Navajo Nation to provide the services of the unit.

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**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

- A high school diploma/GED with college coursework in Health, Public Health, or related field; and three (3) years of experience working in a community based healthcare program; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

**Special Requirements:**

- A favorable background investigation.
- Possess a valid state driver's license.

**PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

- An Associate's degree in Public Health or related field.
- Phlebotomy certification.

**Supplemental Requirements:**

Incumbent must obtain a Navajo Nation Vehicle Operator's Permit within 90 days of date of hire.

Depending upon the needs of the Nation, some incumbents of the class may be required to demonstrate fluency in both the Navajo and English languages as a condition of employment.