

Chapter H 47

VENEREAL DISEASES

H 47.01	Venereal diseases	H 47.07	Venereal disease—examination of sexual contacts
H 47.02	Venereal disease—all infected persons subject to control	H 47.08	Venereal disease—indigents; treatment facilities
H 47.03	Venereal disease—who is to report	H 47.09	Venereal disease—forbidden occupations
H 47.04	Venereal disease—reporting of cases delinquent in treatment	H 47.10	Issuing certificates of freedom from venereal disease forbidden
H 47.05	Examination of certain classes suspected of having venereal disease	H 47.11	Venereal disease—minors
H 47.06	Venereal disease cases— isolation	H 47.12	Venereal disease—definition of communicability

H 47.01 Venereal diseases. The state board of health declares the following venereal diseases, namely, syphilis, gonorrhoea, and chancroid as contagious, infectious, communicable and dangerous to the public health.

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H 47.02 Venereal disease—All infected persons subject to control. All persons having venereal disease shall be subject to such control as public safety requires.

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H 47.03 Venereal disease—Who is to report. Any physician who attends, treats or examines a person with venereal disease in communicable form; and any superintendent or manager of a hospital, dispensary, charitable or penal institution having knowledge of any such case not known to be previously reported, shall report such case to the state board of health. Such report shall be by designated number, age, sex, conjugal condition and duration of disease. The physician shall inquire into the source of infection and shall report any person known to a reasonable certainty to be the source by name and address to the state board of health. Any person knowing of a case of venereal disease not under the care of a physician and believed to be a menace to the public health shall report the name and address directly to the state board of health.

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H 47.04 Venereal disease—Reporting of cases delinquent in treatment. Whenever any person suffering from syphilis, gonorrhoea or chancroid in a communicable form shall fail to return to the physician treating such person in reasonable time, such person shall be reported by name and address to the state board of health as delinquent in treatment.

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H 47.05 Examination of certain classes suspected of having venereal disease. (1) It shall be the duty of each superintendent, manager or physician of any state, county, municipal, charitable or correctional institution, the warden of the state prison, the sheriff and other keepers of any jail or other penal institution to cause an examination to be made of all inmates suspected of having a venereal disease and said examination shall be made by a method satisfactory to the state board of health. Vagrants, prostitutes, frequenters of houses of prostitution and persons guilty of illicit cohabitation are hereby declared to be reasonably suspected to have venereal disease.

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(2) Any such person found to be infected with any of the venereal diseases in a communicable stage shall be kept in such quarters as not to expose others. Such persons and all legally committed persons with a venereal disease, which is communicable to others, at expiration of commitment shall hereby be considered under quarantine and shall so remain until satisfactory arrangements can be made for care and treatment by a licensed physician at place of subsequent residence or until other disposition of the case is made by the state board of health.

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**H 47.06 Venereal disease cases—Isolation.** Whenever a case or suspected case of venereal disease is found on premises where the case cannot be properly controlled during the period of infectiousness, or whenever a case of venereal disease in the infectious stage refuses or neglects care or treatment by a physician licensed to prescribe drugs, or is unmanageable and other persons are endangered, a placard may be placed on the premises occupied by the patient. Such placard shall be applied in emergency and not in lieu of commitment to an institution under section 148.07, Wis. Stats. The placard sign shall have the words "Communicable Disease." Violation of the requirements imposed by the placard shall be deemed a violation of these regulations. The local health officer shall be required by the state board of health to impose such isolation and enforce its requirements.

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**H 47.07 Venereal disease—Examination of sexual contacts.** All persons reported to be sexual contacts by any person with venereal disease in a communicable form shall be regarded as suspected cases and may be required by an official of the state board of health to be examined by a physician, in a manner satisfactory to the state board of health.

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**H 47.08 Venereal disease—Indigents: treatment facilities.** Local health officers and local boards of health shall cooperate with the state board of health in establishing treatment facilities for indigent persons with venereal disease. Local health officers shall report to the state board of health all cases of venereal disease reported to them.

**H 47.09 Venereal disease—Forbidden occupations.** Persons suspected to be or knowing themselves to be afflicted with a communicable venereal disease shall not engage in the care or nursing of children or of the sick, nor shall they engage in any occupation the nature of which is such that their infection may be communicated to others. In the interest of the public health a medical health officer or officer of the state board of health may confidentially inform any person so endangered.

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**H 47.10 Issuing certificates of freedom from venereal disease forbidden.** No physician or health officer shall issue certificates of freedom from any venereal disease to any person except those certificates required by law for marriage licenses and those required by local ordinances to be issued to local health officers. No person shall carry or exhibit such certificates to other persons or show, for immoral purposes, venereal disease reports from any laboratory. Such procedure is declared by the state board of health to be inimical to public health and public welfare.

**H 47.11 Venereal disease—Minors.** The parents or guardians of minors acquiring venereal disease shall, when notified, be legally responsible for the compliance of such minors with the requirements of these regulations.

**H 47.12 Venereal disease—Definition of communicability.** All cases of venereal disease shall be regarded as communicable until the following requirements have been met:

- (1) **SYPHILIS\*** Until open sores, ulcers, rashes, syphilitic sore throat or other open syphilitic lesions are healed; and also until satisfactory care and treatment as hereinafter defined has been given to any of the following: Pregnant women with syphilis; females who have given birth to a syphilitic child; syphilitic persons at any stage of the disease who, reasonable evidence indicates, are promiscuous in sexual relations and are a menace to others; and persons with early syphilis not adequately treated.

(Note: Adequate treatment shall be considered to be the administration of not less than twenty doses of arsenicals and twenty doses of heavy metal or equally effective treatment by a physician licensed to prescribe drugs. This other effective treatment shall be such as considered adequate by the state board of health.)

(2) **GONORRHEA**

(a) **Male**

1. Freedom from discharge.
2. Clear urine, no shreds.
3. Urethral smears must be negative for gonococci on four successive examinations at intervals of not less than one week.
4. Prostatic smears negative to gonococci on two successive tests, not less than one month after conclusion of specific treatment.
5. When penicillin is used for the treatment of gonorrhea, a blood test for syphilis shall be taken at monthly intervals for a three month period.

(b) **Female**

1. No unusual vaginal discharge.
2. Two successive negative examinations for gonococci of the secretions of the urethra, vagina, and of the cervix with an interval of at least 48 hours, and repeated for four successive weeks.
3. When penicillin is used for the treatment of gonorrhea, a blood test for syphilis shall be taken at monthly intervals for a three month period.

(Note: The labia should be held apart and a swab applied so as to express any secretions from Skenes or Bartholin's glands, which is then taken up on the swab.

In preparing urethral slides the finger should be inserted in the vagina and expression made on the floor of the urethra from within outward, the cotton-tipped probe being then introduced well into the meatus. In procuring a smear from the cervix a vaginal speculum should be introduced and the cervix well exposed. All secretions should be mopped away from the external os before taking the smear. After the cervix is well dried a probe tightly wound with cotton should be inserted in the cervical canal and rotated several times.)

(3) **CHANCROID.** Until all lesions are healed.

\* Does not apply to Section 143.07, subsection 4.