



Navy Environmental Health Center
Sexual Health and Responsibility Program (SHARP)

Sexual Partner Counseling and Referral: Self-study version

Objective: Improve the ability of Naval health care and health care support professionals to work with patients infected with sexually transmitted infections to bring their sexual partners to testing, treatment, and prevention counseling.

Course Overview: Self-study. Students learn the four referral options and 11-step partner referral process. Military-specific circumstances and issues are explored. Students use role-plays to improve their one-on-one counseling skills of working with patients to bring their partners to testing and treatment.

Continuing Education Credit: Naval Medical Education and Training Command, Bethesda, Maryland designates this educational activity for:

- **Nurses:** 1.8 educational activity 1 contact hours. NMETC approval #040927.
- **IDCs:** 1.5 CEUs (NMETC Ltr 23 Sep 02; Ser OE2564)

Target Audience: Physicians, Independent Duty Corpsmen, nurses, Preventive Medicine and Public Health Technicians and Officers, PM Representatives, PM Petty Officers and family counselors.

Prerequisites: none.

Access: this course may be downloaded from <http://www-nehc.med.navy.mil/downloads/hp/pcrs.pdf> or ordered in hardcopy from SHARP.

"Few physicians engage in partner notification, and most instruct patients to self-report to the health department or notify partners themselves. This reliance on patient notification represents a gap between common practice and our knowledge of its effectiveness".¹

The SHARP PCRS course improves the ability of providers and patients to **successfully** notify and refer potentially infected partners and strengthens collaboration between primary care and preventive medicine.

1. St Lawrence, et al (2002) Am J of Public Health 90(11);1784-1788

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