



# Expedited Partner Therapy The Denver Experience

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Phoenix, AZ  
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# EPT

## Legal Status in Colorado

- No legal impediments to provide EPT
- EPT specifically endorsed by:
  - Colorado State Board of Medical Examiners
    - Policy 40-10, issued 5/10/2001
      - “It is the position of the Colorado Board of Medical Examiners that the public risk of untreated sexually transmitted infection is greater than the risk of complications from prescribing in this less than ideal setting”
  - Colorado State Board of Pharmacy
    - Policy 40-4, issued 7/19/2007
      - “It is the position of the Colorado Pharmacy Board that the public risk of untreated sexually transmitted infection is greater than the risk of complications from dispensing in this less than ideal setting”

# EPT in Colorado

## Colorado State Board of Medical Examiners Policy

<b>POLICY NUMBER:</b>	<b>40-10</b>
<b>Title:</b>	Appropriateness of Treating Partners of Patients with Sexually Transmitted Infections
<b>Date Issued:</b>	5/10/01
<b>Date(s) Revised:</b>	
<b>Reference:</b>	
<b>Purpose:</b>	To clarify the Colorado Board of Medical Examiners' position concerning the appropriateness of physicians treating the partners of patients with sexually transmitted infections.

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**POLICY:** The Board acknowledges the concern and dilemma which occurs when a physician encounters a patient with a sexually transmitted infection, and the partner of the patient does not come to the physician's office. The ideal situation would be that each partner visit his or her primary healthcare provider for treatment. However, the Board recognizes that what is idealistic may not be realistic. There is a compelling need for the partner to receive treatment in the form of prescription medications. Treating partners of patients with sexually transmitted infections is generally considered acceptable and desirable if the partner will not seek treatment from his or her primary healthcare provider. The overriding public policy concern must be to treat the infected partner. It must be made clear to the patient that his or her partner must take the medication as prescribed and should follow-up with his or her own healthcare provider. If the partner has any drug allergy or is on any medication, he or she should consult with a healthcare provider before filling the prescription. It is the position of the Colorado Board of Medical Examiners that the public risk of untreated sexually transmitted infection is greater than the risk of complications from prescribing in this less than ideal setting.

# EPT in Colorado

## Colorado State Board of Pharmacy Policy

<b>POLICY NUMBER:</b>	40-4
<b>Title:</b>	Appropriateness of Labeling Prescriptions to Partners of Patients with Sexually Transmitted Infections
<b>Date Issued:</b>	July 19, 2007
<b>Purpose:</b>	To clarify the Colorado Pharmacy Board's position concerning the appropriateness of labeling prescriptions to partners of patients with sexually transmitted infections.

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**POLICY:** The Board acknowledges the concern and dilemma which occurs when a pharmacist encounters a patient with a sexually transmitted infection, and the partner does not come to the physician's office to obtain a prescription order. The ideal situation would be that each partner visits his or her primary healthcare provider for treatment to obtain a prescription order. However, the Board recognizes that what is idealistic may not be realistic. There is compelling need for the partner to receive treatment in the form of prescription medications. Treating partners of patients with sexually transmitted infections is generally considered acceptable and desirable if the partner will not seek treatment from his or her primary healthcare provider. The overriding public policy concern must be to treat the infected partner. It must be made clear to the patient that his or her partner must take the medication as prescribed and should follow-up with his or her own healthcare provider. If the partner has any drug allergy or is on any medication, he or she should consult with a healthcare provider before obtaining the prescription. It is the position of the Colorado Pharmacy Board that the public risk of untreated sexually transmitted infection is greater than the risk of complications from dispensing in this less than ideal setting.

Therefore, the Board approves of the labeling of prescriptions for partners of patients with sexually transmitted infections pursuant to prescription orders issued by a licensed practitioner in the following manner:

1. Label the treated patient's prescription by the patient's own name.
2. Label the untreated partner's prescription by the treated patient's name immediately followed by the word "Partner". For example, for the treated patient – "Joe Smith", then for the untreated patient – "Joe Smith's Partner."
3. Assign a separate and unique identifying number to each prescription and clearly identify this number on each corresponding prescription label.

# EPT in the STD Clinical Setting

## Questions

- How to implement EPT in a busy STD clinic?
- What are the EPT acceptance rates among patients eligible for EPT?
- What are the reasons eligible patients decline EPT?

# Denver Metro Health Clinic

- 2007 Stats:
  - 19,706 clinic visits
  - 1,874 Ct cases (9.5% of all visits)
    - Men: 9/9%
    - Women: 8.9%
  - 700 GC cases (3.5% of all visits)
    - Men: 4.3%
    - Women: 2.4%

# History of EPT at DMHC

- 11/2006 – 3/2007
  - Demonstration Project
- 3/2007 – 8/2007
  - Review by pharmacy board
- 9/2007 – Current
  - Standard of care



## Partner Pack Chlamydia

# Implementation of EPT at DMHC

- Provider training
- Changes to the electronic medical record
  - Treatment information includes EPT
  - Partner services questions include EPT and reasons why declined
- Chart review and provider feedback

**Person #:** 95612      **Med Rec #:** 1044808      **County:** Denver

**Gender:** Female

**Updated By:** Staley, Sharon On 10/10/08 10:42 AM

- Gender
- Reason
- Reason Detail
- Symptoms
- Treatment
- HIV
- OB/GYN
- Physical Exam
- Signature
- Follow-Up
- Partner Services

**Partner Services (Read-Only)**

**DIS Name:**

**Expedited Partner Therapy Given?**

- Yes
- No

**Reasons EPT Not Given (Check all that apply):**

- Partner treated
- Partner will be notified
- Anonymous partner/Unable to contact partner
- Declined
- Other

**Other Reason EPT Not Given:**

**Number of Partner Packs Given:**

- NA
- 1
- 2
- 3

[Help](#)   [Validate](#)   [Save](#)   [Complete](#)   [Check-in](#)

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Created By: Conversion, Data On 3/18/05 12:00 AM

Updated By: Staley, Sharon On 10/10/08 10:42 AM

- 10/10/08
  - Eligibility Items
  - Visit Forms
  - Detail Medical Chart
  - Add a Department/Service
  - Add Telephone Counseling
  - STD Clinic
    - Print a Label
    - Clinical Visit
      - Forms
        - Add a Form
        - Follow-Up Visit Form-87
      - Lab Orders
      - DX
        - Add a DX
        - CT
          - TX
            - Add a TX
            - Azithromycin
            - EPT Azithromycin
- 10/1/08
- 5/6/99

**Log #:** 76      **Visit Date:** 10/10/2008      **Visit Status:** Processing  
**STD Clinic/Clinical Visit**      **Main Reason:** Y      **Service Status:** Pending Physician Review  
**Requested Time:** 10:43 AM      **Requested By:** krietmeijer      **Reg Type:** Appointment

**Treatment Detail:** CT

**Treatment:\*** EPT Azithromycin 1 gram oral susp #1

**Other Treatment Description:**

**Dose#/Packets:\***

**Dispensed:\***

**Script Given:\***       **Refills:\***

**Current:** true

**Reported To State:**

Created By: Staley, Sharon  
Last Modified: 10/10/2008

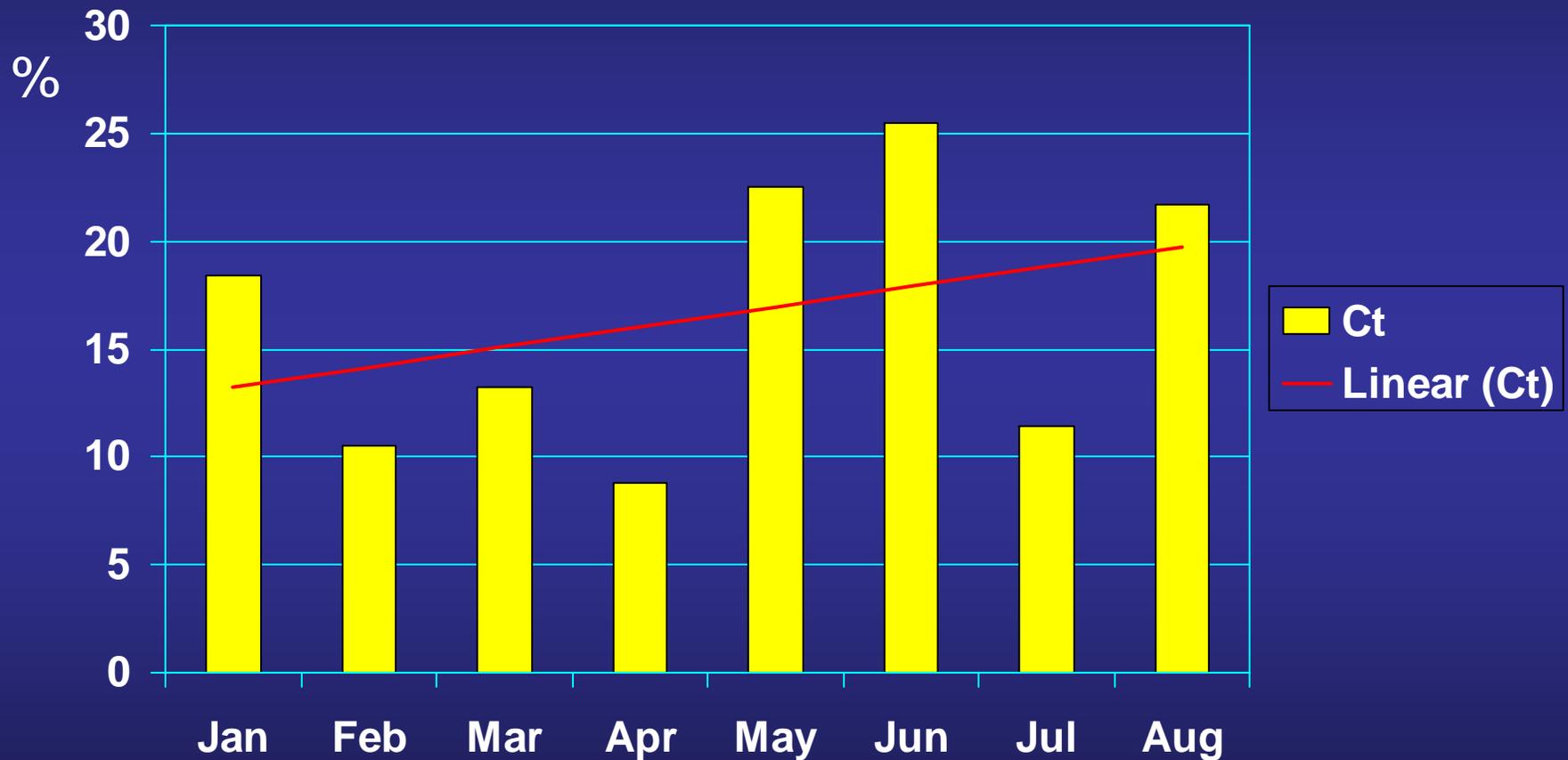
      

*This information is private and confidential...*

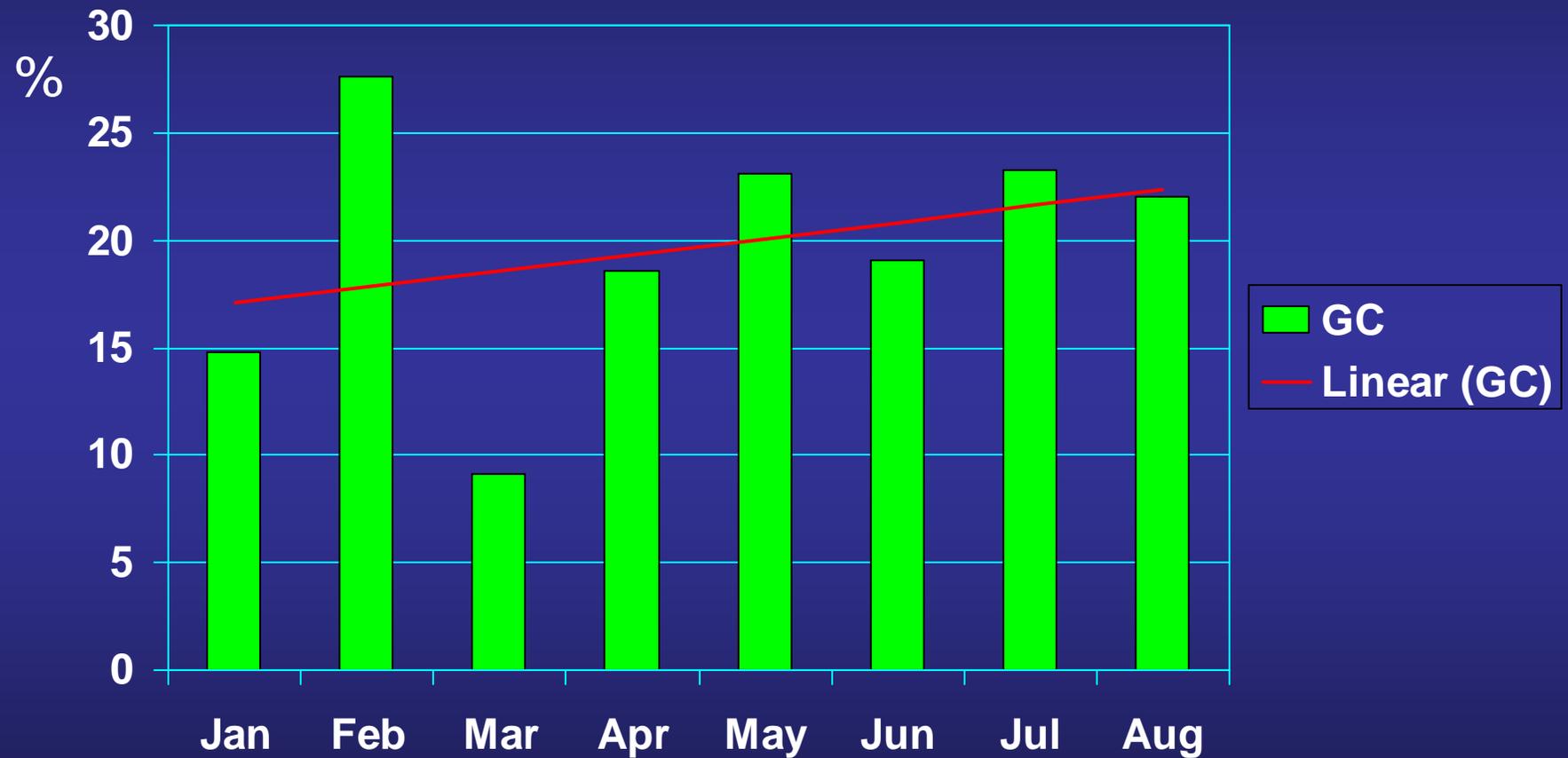
# EPT at DMHC - 2008

- Between 1/1/2008 and 8/31/2008
  - 614 heterosexual patients with documented GC or CT eligible for EPT
  - 112 (18.2%) received EPT
    - Median # partner packs: 1 Range: 1-3
  - No demographic or risk differences between those who did or did not accept EPT

# EPT Acceptance DMHC - 2008

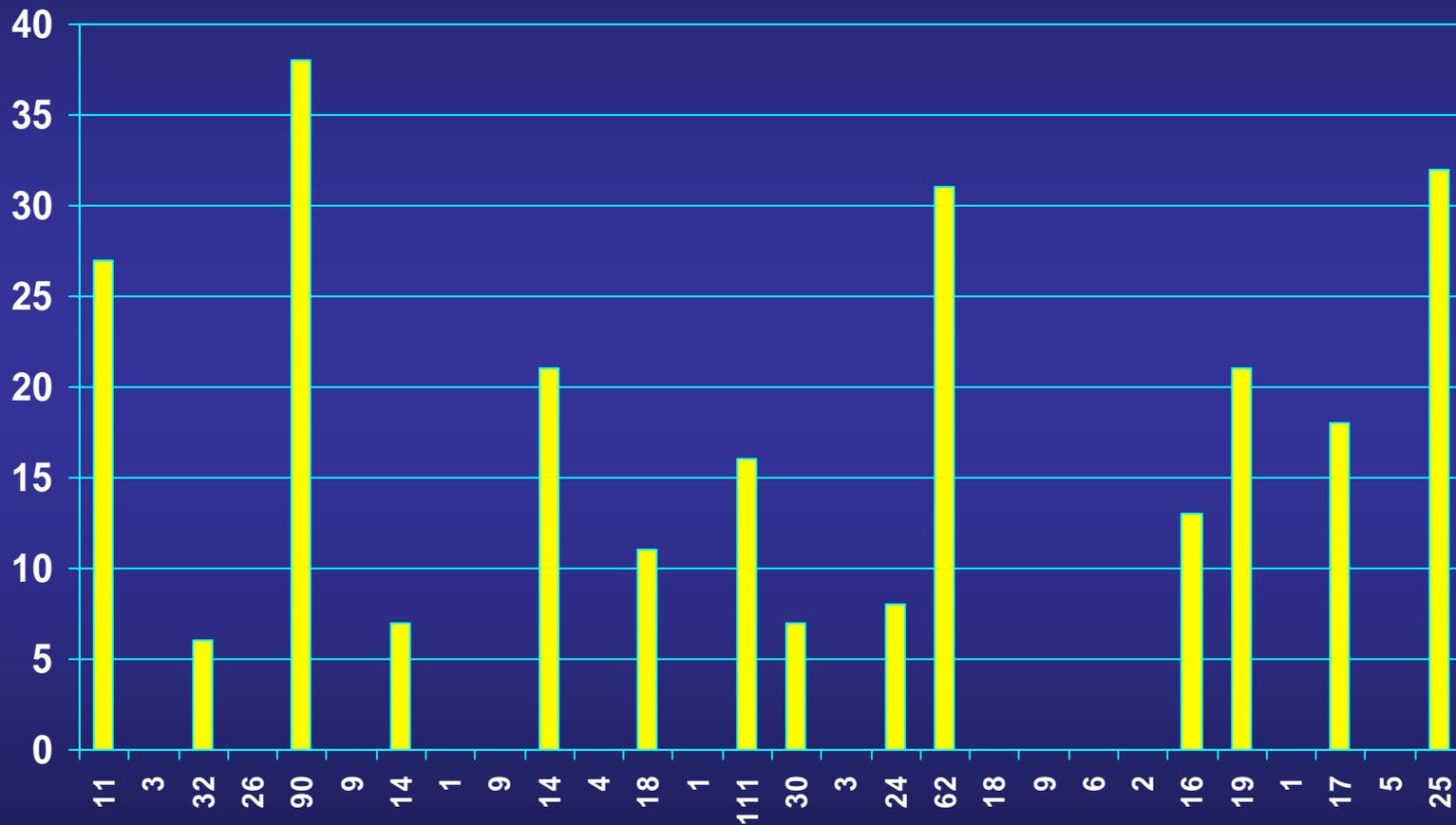


# EPT Acceptance DMHC - 2008



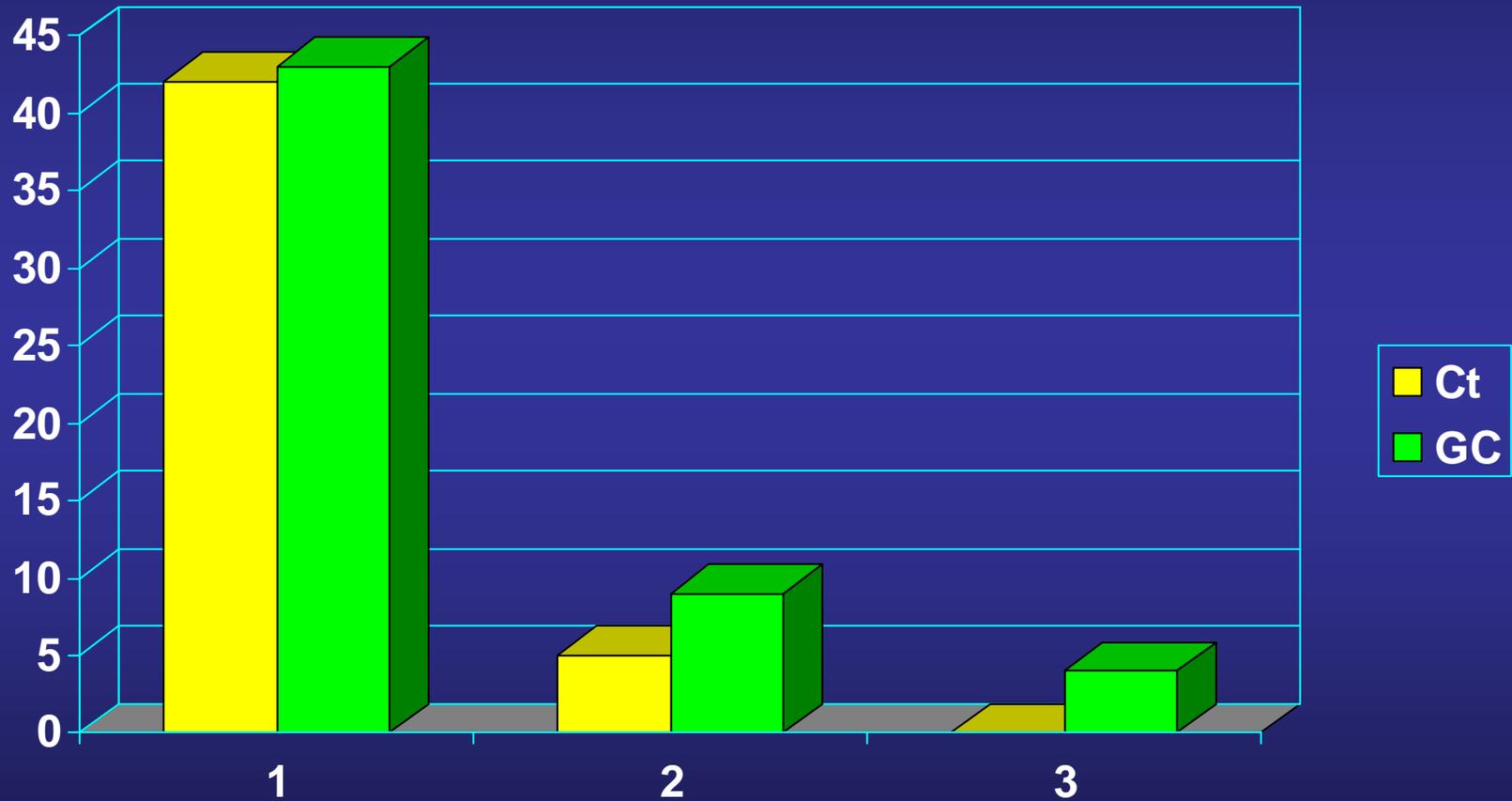
# EPT Provider Rate - 2008

% Accepting EPT

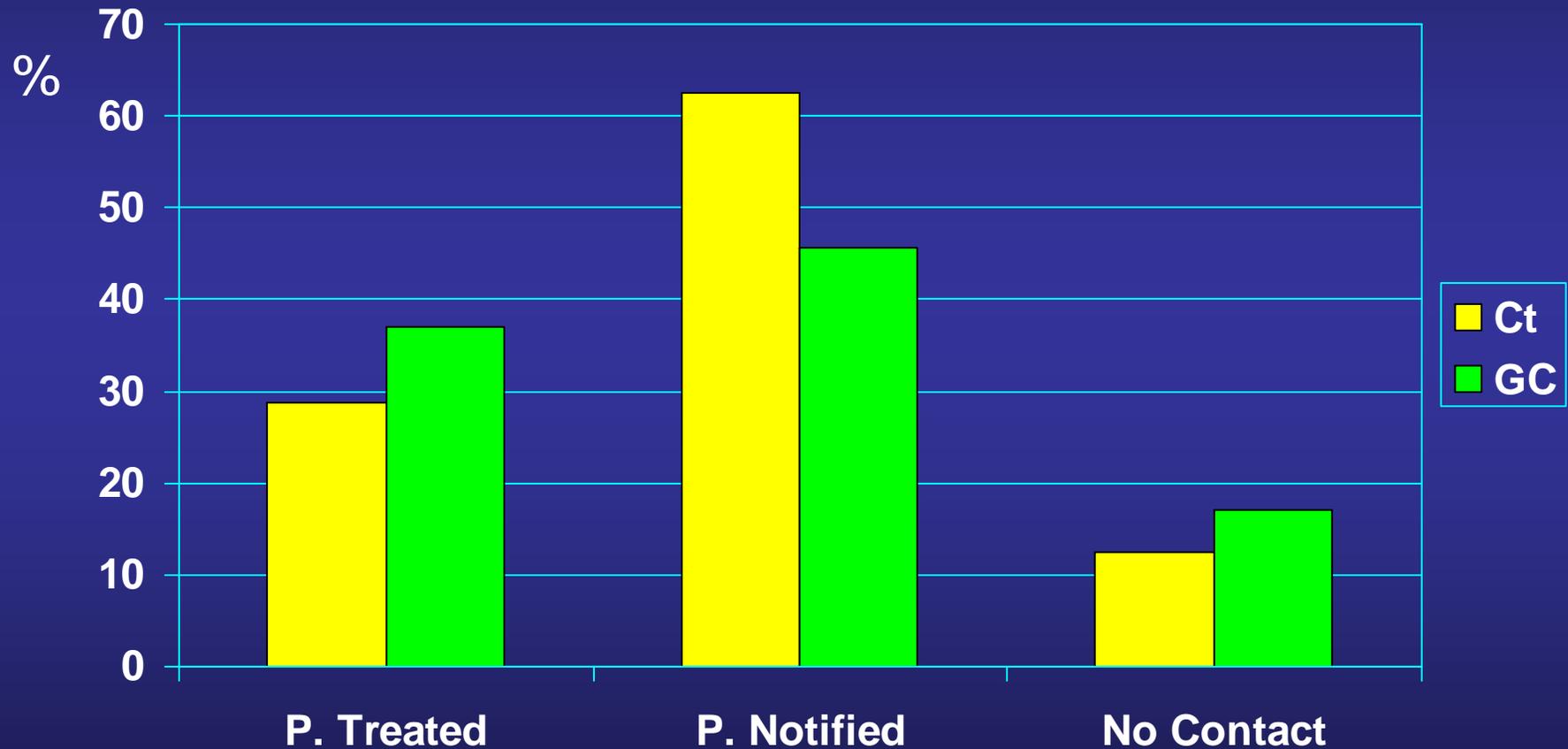


Number of Eligible Patients by Provider (N= 28)

# Number of EPT Partner Packs



# Reasons for Declining EPT



# Conclusions

- Acceptance for EPT at the Denver Metro Health Clinic is about 20%
- Main reasons to decline EPT:
  - Partners already treated or currently in clinic
  - Patients want their partners to be seen by medical provider
- Provider success rate varies from 0 – 38%
  - Ongoing training necessary