Syphilis in California Babies is on the Rise

Syphilis is an infection spread by sexual contact. Congenital syphilis is when syphilis is passed on to infants during pregnancy or during delivery. It can be life-threatening.

The number of infants born with congenital syphilis increased for the 5th year in a row.

70 of those infants were stillbirths, with 30 stillbirths in 2017 alone.

2012 2017
33 cases 278 cases*

Syphilis in babies is PREVENTABLE.

Testing & treatment are key to preventing syphilis.

Talk to your doctor & sex partners about prevention.

Remember the buzz about Zika? Since 2015 there have been nearly 9x more syphilis infections in pregnancy than Zika infections in pregnancy.

Sources:
1) *CDPH STD Data Trends through 2017 (Preliminary as of 3/27/18)
2) CDPH Monthly Update on Zika Virus Infections in California: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Zika.aspx