Patients who are suspected of having ocular syphilis or neurosyphilis should be referred for immediate evaluation of these symptoms. Evaluation for ocular syphilis and neurosyphilis symptoms will often require a lumbar puncture.

When referring a patient for evaluation, please communicate to the evaluating provider the need to assess specifically for ocular syphilis and/or neurosyphilis. To facilitate timely diagnosis and treatment, consider giving the patient a copy of the completed Ocular Syphilis & Neurosyphilis Screening Guide.

### SYMPTOMS OF OCULAR SYPHILIS

1) Have you recently had a change or blurring in your vision? □ Yes □ No
2) Do you see flashing lights? □ Yes □ No
3) Do you see spots that move or float by in your field of vision? □ Yes □ No
4) Have you recently had pain or redness in one or both eyes? □ Yes □ No

*Consider evaluation and treatment for ocular syphilis in patients with new changes in vision, including loss of vision, blurring, seeing spots or flashing lights and pain and/or redness in one or both eyes.*

### SYMPTOMS OF NEUROSYPHILIS

5) Have you recently been having headaches? □ Yes □ No
6) Have you had new weakness in any part of your body (including your arms, legs or face)? □ Yes □ No
7) Have you had problems walking? □ Yes □ No
8) Have you had problems with memory or confusion? □ Yes □ No
9) Do you feel (or have you been told) that your personality has changed? □ Yes □ No

*Consider evaluation and treatment for neurosyphilis in patients with new-onset of headaches (or headaches that are different from their usual headaches); new and persistent change in personality, memory or judgment; new numbness or weakness in the face, arms or legs; and/or new gait incoordination.*

To receive technical assistance with treatment guidelines, ocular syphilis, neurosyphilis or specific case consultations, please contact the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene’s Center for STI Prevention at DHMH.STIClinicalConsult@maryland.gov or (410) 767-6690.

General information about syphilis can be found at: [http://www.cdc.gov/std/syphilis/](http://www.cdc.gov/std/syphilis/).