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(Neb.)-Neb. Lawmakers Pass STD Partner Treatment Bill



By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 04/18/2013 04:56 PM

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - Nebraska lawmakers gave final approval on a measure that would let doctors provide prescription antibiotics to sexual partners of patients who are diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea.

Lawmakers voted 37-9 on Thursday to allow doctors to provide medicine to treat some sexually transmitted diseases without giving a medical examination to the patient's partner. The doctor must prescribe the medicine to a named person.

Sen. Sara Howard of Omaha, the bill's sponsor, says this kind of treatment is only for people who are unable or unwilling to visit the doctor. She says she introduced the bill to help reduce high rates of sexually transmitted diseases in her district and in the state.

Partner treatment for sexually transmitted diseases is allowed in 32 states.