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PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING TB

Patient consent is not required for reporting this information.

Which patients do I need to report?

- All suspect, clinical and active cases of TB disease (pulmonary and extra-pulmonary), should be reported as soon as possible.
- All Latent TB infection (LTBI) – indicated by positive TB skin test (TST), regardless of plans for prophylaxis.
- All patients requiring assessment for medical surveillance.
- All patients requiring screening as contacts of active cases of TB disease.

Patients with Healthcare coverage should not be charged for these assessments as they are billable to Claims Branch.

- Patients who do not have Health Card coverage may be eligible for TB Diagnostic and Treatment Services for Uninsured Persons Program (TB-UP). Please call Peel Health for further information regarding TB-UP.

What data needs to be reported?

1. patient's name, address and phone #,
2. date of birth,
3. gender,
4. date of onset of symptoms,
5. clinical history and lifestyle details (i.e. risk factors, birth country, type of employment),
6. screening results (TST in mm of induration)
7. lab results, radiology reports, treatment (drugs, dosage, start, stop and change dates)
8. interim reports and final report at completion of follow-up

PROCEDURE FOR ORDERING anti-TB MEDICATION?

For LTBI (Latent TB Infection) treatment:

- Physicians to report data outlined in the previous section including a prescription identifying the drugs, dosage and planned length of treatment
- Medication is mailed to doctor's office for dispensing to the patient once the order is received and accepted by Public Health
- Medication is usually provided in a 3-month supply. Physician must re-order medication from Public Health as required.

For TB disease treatment:

- Physicians to report data outlined in the previous section including a prescription identifying the drugs, dosage and planned length of treatment
- Drugs and dosage requirements and length of treatment planned.
- Once the order is received and accepted by Public Health, replacement medication (if meds have already been provided to patients) are mailed or couriered to doctor's office.
- If preferred, Peel Health can provide the initial medication to patients during home visits. Physician must provide on-going medication to patient at follow-up visits.
- If patients are receiving Directly Observed Therapy (DOT), medication may be supplied directly from Peel Health
Physician must promptly notify Peel Health of any medication changes.

How do I report these patients and order medication?

- By telephone: 905-791-7800 x 2538
- Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30.
- By fax: 905-793-2114
- Reporting and Medication Order Forms are available upon request.

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WHY DOES PUBLIC HEALTH NEED THIS INFORMATION?

Tuberculosis is a reportable disease under the Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA). Peel Health must receive patient information in order to fulfill their mandate under the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Tuberculosis Protocol. Under protocol, Peel Health is responsible for ensuring the following:

1. Investigation of all cases/suspect cases of TB disease and LTBI's,
2. Provision of provincially approved anti-tuberculosis drugs at no cost to the client,
3. Monitor patient adherence and completion of prescribed appropriate drug regimens,
4. Trace and investigate contacts of active cases,
5. Provision of education/health promotion/outreach to health care professionals, community, high-risk groups and patients,
6. Accurate reporting of statistical data,
7. Trace and monitor persons placed on medical surveillance by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

PEEL HEALTH FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS?

A) Latent TB Infection (LTBI)

1. Communicate with doctor to:
 - Ensure active TB has been ruled out (if necessary).
 - Provide recommendations on use of prophylaxis.
2. Provide education to patient:
 - Mail information on TB skin test result and LTBI and respond to telephone inquiries.

B) Cases of TB Disease

1. Communicate with doctor as needed to:
 - Ensure all reporting information is received.
 - Review treatment plans.
 - Access updates on patient status, treatment changes and confirm completion of adequate treatment.
2. Provide education to patient:
 - Home visit all cases within 3 working days, if possible, to review disease, treatment, risk factors and initiate contact tracing for infectious pulmonary cases.
 - Periodically contact patient by telephone to monitor progress.
3. Directly Observed Therapy
 - Visiting program provided to infectious pulmonary cases and high-risk extrapulmonary cases to assist with monitoring of progress, compliance with treatment and accessing community outreach programs.

C) Community Outreach

- Provide community presentations and displays to promote education and screening of high-risk groups.
- Provide health care professionals and facilities with up-to-date information on best practices for follow-up of TB.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON TB IN PEEL REGION:

- Call Peel Health at 905-799-7700
- Visit our website at www.peelregion.ca/health/tb