



TB TidBits

JULY 2014

IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome and Announcements

About the Newsletter

TB TidBits is a quarterly newsletter that covers many aspects of tuberculosis (TB) control. From continuing education to case management and reporting, we hope this newsletter will be helpful and a support to all of our TB partners across the state of Michigan.

In order to make it more relevant to you, we need your feedback!

- ❖ What would you like to know more about?
- ❖ Do you have announcements or job postings?
- ❖ Are you experiencing programmatic or case management barriers for which you would like advice?
- ❖ Have you found recent success with a new strategy you would like to share with others?

Do not hesitate to contact Cassandra McNulty (517-335-8050 or mcnultyc@michigan.gov) with any questions, ideas, or recommendations.

Looking for patient resources?

Here are some resource links that could be helpful to you and your patients.

- ❖ **Find TB Resources:** you can search, submit, and order TB resources. (Including foreign-language materials). (www.findtbresources.org)
- ❖ **CDC Patient and General Public TB Materials (English):** (http://www.cdc.gov/tb/education/patient_edmaterials.htm)
- ❖ **CDC Patient and General Public TB Materials (Spanish):** (<http://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/pamphlets/default.htm>)

Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) Workshops

Do you need to certify or recertify in TST? Would you like to become certified to train others to place and read skin tests? Attend one of our Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) TST or Train the Trainer (TTT) Workshops! For available classes in your area go to www.michigan.gov/tb and click on the TST schedule link.



TB Nurse Certification Page 2



Incentives and Enablers Page 2



Michigan 2013 TB Statistics Page 3



TB Epidemiology Updates Page 3



Staff Updates Page 4



News and Highlights Page 4

TB Nurse Certification Course 2014

Registration for the 2014 TB Nursing Certification and Case Management Course is now open! The course will be held **July 23 & 24, 2014** in Okemos, MI at the Michigan Public Health Institute's (MPHI) Interactive Learning Center. Please use the following link to register for the course: https://mphl-web.ungerboeck.com/wri/wri_p1_display.aspx?oc=10&cc=TB.

Make sure you follow all the directions on the registration page. You will need



**REGISTER
TODAY!!!**

to complete and save the "Attendee Registration Form" first. Then open the "Registration Link" and that page will ask you to upload the registration form you just completed.

1. Current TST certification is a prerequisite for the TB Nursing Certification Course. If you are currently certified, the "Registration Link" will ask you to scan and upload and copy of your TST card.
2. If you are not currently certified, we are offering a TST/TTT workshop during the afternoon of July 22 for your convenience.

Please contact Sherri Hines at 517-324-8330 for any questions related to registration for the course.

We are working to secure a small block of hotel rooms near MPHI. If you are interested in a room, please let Sherri Hines and Cassandra McNulty know as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing many of you at the course!

Helpful TB Resources

MDCH Haveman HIPPA Memo: A helpful resource in a contact investigation when health care providers are reluctant to provide protected health information to your local health department

2013 CDC Core Curriculum: A good resource for most questions relating to TB testing, evaluation, and treatment

MIOSHA Guidelines: A document from the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration outlining TB testing policy and procedure recommendations for health care settings

2005 MMWR for TB Prevention: Guidelines for preventing TB in health care settings; great resource to inform facility TB testing policies for both clients and staff

Incentives and Enablers

The TB Control Unit has been excited by many of the local health departments (LHDs) and their efforts to help their TB patients complete treatment through minimizing and reducing barriers. As you are deciding if a patient needs food, transportation, or other support, please do not forget that incentive and enabler funds are available for local health departments to aid you in these efforts!

What are incentives or enablers?

Incentives are intended to be items that will encourage and motivate a patient to continue in treatment. Examples of incentives include pre-paid grocery or

gas cards, movie coupons or other simple items that a patient would find enjoyable or helpful during their treatment.

Enablers are intended to break down barriers to treatment and care. These may include grocery or gas cards, but also include more extensive support to the patient such as cab or bus vouchers, rent payments or assistance with other basic necessities such as utilities.

For more information

Please contact Cassandra McNulty (517-335-8050 or mcnultyc@michigan.gov) to request incentives or enablers or to learn more.



Definitions

Incentives: something that incites or tends to incite to action or greater effort

Enablers: to make able; give power, means, competence, or ability to; to make possible or easy

MICHIGAN TB DATA (2013)

141

The total number of TB cases in 2013; this marked a low year for total number of TB cases comparatively to recent years. The case rate was 1.4/100,000.

81

The number of TB cases in Michigan in 2013 that were male. The proportion of TB cases by gender has been fairly consistent in the past 5 years.

59.0%

The percent of TB cases that were among foreign-born persons in 2013; 39% of cases were US-born.

54.6%

The percent of cases in 2013 that were pulmonary TB. Though pulmonary TB was the majority, 2013 marked the highest proportion of extrapulmonary TB compared to previous years.

102

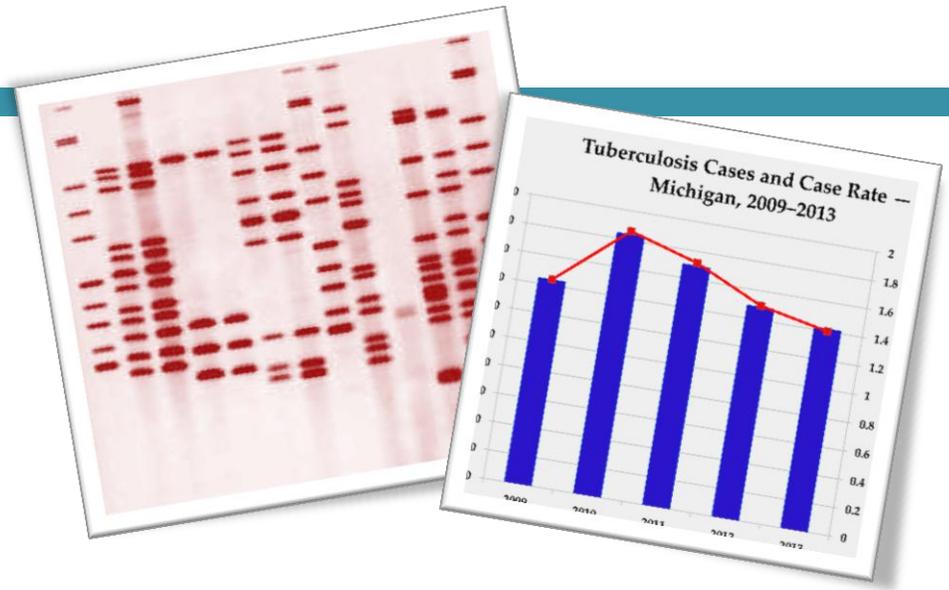
The number of TB cases that were verified by laboratory criteria alone: positive culture, genetic probe, and other molecular testing methods. (This excludes those who were verified by clinical case or provider diagnosis criterion.)

7.0%

The percent of TB cases who are also co-infected with HIV. Michigan has lower reported proportions of co-infected cases than the national average.

8.5%

In 2013, the most common risk factor associated with TB disease was Excessive Alcohol Use followed by Homelessness (5.8%) and then Non-Injectable Drug Use (4.3%).



Epidemiology Updates

TB Genotyping

For many years, the MDCH TB Unit has defined outbreaks within Michigan by using a set of genetic markers referred to as PCRTtype. Since the creation of the more specific GENType in recent years, we have made changes to the way we define outbreak clusters in the Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS).

Moving forward, only GENType xxxxx will be referenced in the MDSS Case Report Notes tab as well as whether the GENType is unique or clustered within Michigan. Cases that are clustered by GENType will be identified with "YES" in the "Part of an outbreak?" field and the outbreak name will remain in the same format: MI_xxxx_xxxx. Cases with only a matching PCRTtype to other cases will now be identified with "NO" in the "Part of an outbreak?" field and the outbreak name will be left blank. MDCH staff will also update the outbreak name for the older case in MDSS if a new outbreak cluster is created due to the addition of a new GENType match to an older case.

MDSS Tips

Report of Verified Case of TB (RVCT)

Case Report: LHD staff should finish pages 1-5 in the RVCT case report form within 30 days and change the status to "Review" in MDSS to signal its completion. Once the status is changed, MDCH staff will review the report for data to submit to the CDC. After this is

accomplished, the MDCH staff will change the status to "Completed-follow-up." Cases should remain at this status until treatment is complete. Once treatment is complete, LHD staff should complete the follow-up 2 section of the RVCT and again change the status to "Review" to signal MDCH staff. MDCH staff will then review the case report form for completion.

Please also remember:

- ❖ For foreign-born cases, also enter month-year of arrival.
- ❖ Set any Mycobacterium Other Than Tuberculosis (MOTT)/TB Not a Case entries to review once confirmed by the LHD. MDCH staff will review and complete the case.
- ❖ If "Reportable Condition" is set for TB, but it is confirmed as not a TB case (i.e. MOTT), please change the Case Status to "Not a Case" and then change Investigation Status to "Review" for completion.

Please contact Shirley Wang for additional information on genotyping, surveillance and MDSS case reporting.

Genotyping Definitions

PCRTtype: matching Spoligo Type and MIRU markers

GENType: matching Spoligo Type, MIRU and MIRU2 markers

TB Control Unit Staff Updates

Staff changes can be exciting but also confusing if roles or duties change. In an effort to better communicate and meet your needs, we outlined our team with each position's role and responsibilities below. Do not hesitate to contact any of us if you have questions or concerns.



Peter Davidson, PhD

TB Unit Manager: As the unit manager, Peter supervises all the day-to-day functions of the team. As such, he handles all questions and issues related to TB legal powers, public health legal issues and court orders. If there are any questions or unique situations with lab testing, he is the one to deal with them. He also consults on questions

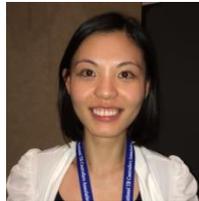
relating to immigrant and refugee health.



Cassandra McNulty, MPH

TB Public Health

Consultant: Cassandra oversees areas of program evaluation and education for the unit. Outside of evaluating the TB Program's effectiveness, she handles all questions relating to TST workshops, TB testing in occupational settings and testing recommendations for various facilities. She is responsible for the quarterly TB TidBits Newsletter as well as all other educational and foreign language materials. Lastly, she processes all incentive and enabler requests.



Shirley Wang, MPH

TB Epidemiologist:

Shirley oversees all areas of TB reporting

and surveillance. As such, she is in charge of MDSS, TB case reporting, TB genotyping, data and statistics. She generates all of our state epidemiology reports. She additionally handles questions pertaining to routine lab testing and contact investigations as well as interjurisdictional transfers for patients moving within, into or out of MI.



Seth Eckel, MPH

TB Data Analyst: Seth

works in the unit part-time (Wed afternoon, Thurs, and Fri) and the other half of his time in the Viral Hepatitis Unit. He manages the Electronic Disease Online Notification (EDN) System for the State of Michigan, and handles all questions on immigrant/refugee evaluation. He also assists with MDSS, surveillance, case reporting issues, and special projects.

News and Highlights

TST Questions and Materials

We now have an email address just for TST questions and materials submissions! The email address is MDCH-TSTWorkshop@michigan.gov

Moving forward, the following items in addition to general TST questions should be directed to this email address:

- ❖ workshop sign-in sheets and evaluations
- ❖ instructor applications and bio forms
- ❖ supplies requests (cards and rulers)
- ❖ notifications of workshops



Save the Date!!!

2014 TB Nurse Certification

July 23 and 24, 2014
MPHI Interactive Learning Center
To register: [Click Here](#)

World TB Day Conference 2015

March 26, 2015
Lansing Center, Lansing, MI
Registration announcement to follow

World TB Day Presentations

If you were unable to attend the World TB Day conference this year, the presentations are available online [HERE](#).
(<http://webcast.mihealth.org/WorldTBDay/2014/default.htm>)

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