POLICY STATEMENT:

The Department shall have a program in place to prevent and control the transmission of tuberculosis (TB) among prisoners that is consistent with guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Thoracic Society (ATS), federal and state law, and currently accepted medical practices.

RELATED POLICIES:

02.04.110 Control of Tuberculosis in Employees
03.04.110 Control of Communicable Diseases

STATEWIDE OPERATING PROCEDURE:

03.04.115 Control of Tuberculosis in Prisoners

POLICY:

DEFINITIONS

A. **Active TB Disease**: A clinically infectious disease caused by mycobacterium tuberculosis (TB) organisms that are spread from an infected person to persons through the air.

B. **Latent TB Infection (LTBI)**: Exists when mycobacterium tuberculosis organisms are present in the body but are neither active nor infectious.

C. **Medical Provider**: A qualified health professional who is a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner in the State of Michigan.

D. **Prisoner Health Record**: All information recorded in electronic form, paper form, or any other medium that pertains to a prisoner's mental and/or physical health care, history, diagnosis, prognosis, or condition that is maintained by a Health Care provider.

E. **Skin Test (PPD)**: A tuberculin skin test.

GENERAL INFORMATION

F. For the purpose of this policy, prisoner includes probationers and parolees housed in Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) facilities.

G. The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of the Bureau of Health Care Services (BHCS) shall oversee TB control activities throughout the Department. This includes the authority to develop, implement, enforce, and evaluate TB control practices. The CMO shall ensure coordination and monitoring of TB screening and treatment programs is in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

H. The Infectious Disease Control Committee shall maintain a TB Prevention and Control Plan requiring early detection, isolation, and treatment of prisoners with infectious TB.

I. In conjunction with the Training and Recruitment Division, Budget and Operations Administration (BOA),
the BHCS Administrator shall ensure training on TB control and prevention is developed and provided to appropriate Department staff, including Health Care staff who administer TB skin tests or interpret the results.

**TB EDUCATION**

J. Health Care staff shall educate prisoners about TB while they are in a reception facility, annually, and as otherwise indicated.

**QUARANTINE OR REFUSAL**

K. A prisoner who refuses to submit to required screening, testing or treatment by Health Care staff shall be quarantined, if recommended by the Assistant Chief Medical Officer (ACMO). Prisoners shall be quarantined as set forth in PD 03.04.110 "Control of Communicable Diseases."

**SCREENING FOR TB**

L. Health Care staff shall screen all prisoners for symptoms of active TB, history of active TB, and history of treatment for LTBI or active TB, as soon as possible after arrival at a reception facility, at the Special Alternative Incarceration (SAI) or a Reentry Facility. All prisoners shall similarly be screened on an annual basis unless the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issues a shortage notice at which time Health Care staff may implement a prioritized testing protocol until the shortage is abated. Screening shall include a skin test unless there is satisfactory written medical documentation of a negative skin test within the preceding 90 calendar days, a past positive skin test, or there is written medical documentation of a past significant positive reaction. Whenever a skin test is not given, the Tuberculosis Symptoms Health Screening Questionnaire (CHJ-270) shall be completed in lieu of the test. All results should be documented in the prisoner health record.

**SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED ACTIVE TB**

M. Whenever a prisoner has suspected or confirmed active TB, staff shall immediately institute infection control procedures as documented in the TB prevention and control plan.

N. A prisoner with suspected or confirmed active TB shall be placed in respiratory isolation and transferred as soon as possible to a negative pressure room at Duane L. Waters Health Center or another inpatient medical care facility.

O. A prisoner with active TB shall be scheduled for clinic visits at least monthly except while in a negative pressure room.

**TREATMENT OF TB INFECTION**

P. Health Care staff shall ensure that all prisoners who have a positive skin test are evaluated to determine their need for preventive therapy for LTBI after active TB has been ruled out.

Q. Health Care staff shall use a therapeutic regime determined by the CMO in conjunction with guidelines from the CDC and ATS to treat LTBI. All preventive therapy shall be given under the direct observation of Health Care staff. Prisoners who have a positive skin test shall be offered HIV counseling and testing unless known to be HIV positive and already provided the counseling.

**MISSED OR REFUSED MEDICATION/APPOINTMENTS BY PRISONERS**

R. A prisoner who misses a dose of medication for the treatment of either LTBI or active TB shall be immediately referred to the Medical Provider for a chart review.

S. The ACMO shall be informed of a prisoner being treated for active TB who misses two scheduled health
care appointments or who refuses medication for active TB after therapy has started. The prisoner may be quarantined from the general population as set forth in PD 03.04.110 “Control of Communicable Diseases.”

**BHCS DISCHARGE PLANNING FOR PRISONERS**

**T.** Health Care staff shall develop a discharge plan for each prisoner who paroles or discharges while being treated for LTBI or active TB. The facility Health Unit Manager or designee shall advise the TB control official of the local health department in the county to which the prisoner is being released of the prisoner’s TB status and the need for follow-up care. The prisoner shall be released with one month's supply of medication and written documentation confirming an appointment with the local public health department.

**DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING**

**U.** All suspected or diagnosed cases of active TB shall be reported promptly to the CMO and to the appropriate local health department as set forth in PD 03.04.110 “Control of Communicable Diseases.”

**OPERATING PROCEDURES**

**V.** To implement requirements set forth in this policy directive, the CFA Deputy Director and BHCS Administrator shall ensure procedures are developed or updated as necessary.

**AUDIT ELEMENTS**

**W.** A Primary Audit Elements List has been developed and is available on the Department’s Document Access System to assist with self-audit of this policy, pursuant to PD 01.05.100 “Self-Audits and Performance Audits.”

**APPROVED: HEW 11/12/2019**