

Section 2: **Surveillance and Screening**

Policy Number: **2.1**

Subject: **Enhanced TB Surveillance –
Active Cases**

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Epidemiologic surveillance of tuberculosis (TB) is the timely collection, analysis, interpretation and dissemination of data. The goal of TB surveillance in Ontario Region is to:
 - 1.1.1 Identify TB trends in the community/region.
 - 1.1.2 Identify high risk groups and risk factors.
 - 1.1.3 Evaluate TB control activities.
 - 1.1.4 Monitor treatment and outcome for all cases.
 - 1.1.5 Measure program effectiveness against Health Canada's Strategy Against Tuberculosis for First Nations On-Reserve.

2 POLICY

- 2.1 First Nations and Inuit Health Branch – Ontario Region carries out enhanced surveillance of tuberculosis cases and latent tuberculosis infection in order to gather relevant information to make programming decisions and to meet the reporting requirements of Health Canada's Monitoring and Performance Framework for Tuberculosis Programs for First Nations On-Reserve.

3 PROCEDURE

- 3.1 When the Community Health Nurse (CHN) is informed of a suspected or confirmed case of active pulmonary or extra-pulmonary tuberculosis in the community, notification will be sent to the Communicable Disease (CD) nurse.
- 3.2 The CD nurse will assist the CHN to complete the **Active Tuberculosis (TB) Report Form** (Refer to Appendix A).
- 3.3 The CHN will send a copy of the **Active Tuberculosis Report Form** to the CD nurse within 48 hours by confidential fax.
- 3.4 The CHN must notify the respective local public health unit (PHU) as soon as possible. For more information on notification requirements, refer to Policy 1.2: Reporting of Active TB Cases and LTBI to Local Public Health Units.

- 3.5 The CHN will update the CD nurse on a weekly basis on client case management.
- 3.6 This data will be used to evaluate the TB program and will be included in regional CD reports.
- 3.7 When treatment is complete the CHN will fill out the **Tuberculosis Outcome Report Form** and send a copy to the CD nurse (Refer to Appendix B).
- 3.8 The CD nurse will forward all forms received to the regional epidemiologist.

4 REFERENCES

- 4.1 Health Canada. (2012). Health Canada's Strategy Against Tuberculosis for First Nations On- Reserve. Retrieved from; [http://: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2012/sc-hc/H34-245-2012-eng.pdf](http://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2012/sc-hc/H34-245-2012-eng.pdf)
- 4.2 Health Canada. (2015). Health Canada's Monitoring and Performance Framework for Tuberculosis Programs for First Nations On-Reserve. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications/science-research-data/monitoring-performance-framework-tuberculosis-programs-first-nations-reserve-2015.html>