

Referral Process for Edmonton Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic

Refer all symptomatic clients to Edmonton TB Services as below:

- Initial phone call to Edmonton TB Services (780-407-4550) or TB Physician on call (780-407-8822) for consultation is recommended
- Complete Tuberculosis Referral form and follow process as outlined below

Refer positive reactors to Edmonton TB Clinic as below:

- Recent contacts of active TB case (regardless of age)
- TST converters (documented previous negative results within the past 2 years) (regardless of age)
- Individuals with medical conditions/therapies that increase risk of progression from LTBI to active disease (regardless of age)
- All foreign-born people less than 65 years of age who have originated from a **country with TB incidence > 200 per 100,000 and who have arrived** within the past five years. For TB incidence in individual countries see the World Health Organization TB country, regional and global profiles (https://worldhealthorg.shinyapps.io/tb_profiles/)
- All **refugees and evacuees aged less than 65 years** originating from countries with TB incidence ≥ 50 per 100,000 **AND** have arrived in Canada within the past two years. For TB incidence in individual countries see the World Health Organization TB country, regional and global profiles (https://worldhealthorg.shinyapps.io/tb_profiles/)
- Travelers at high risk of exposure to TB due to travel to countries with high TB prevalence (regardless of age)
- Individuals at risk for potential occupational exposure to infectious TB (see <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/hp/cdc/if-hp-cdc-ip-sm-tuberculin-skin-test-hcs-appdx-f-08-302.pdf>)
 - With medical risk factors (regardless of age)
 - In addition to the medical risk factors listed on the biologics page, the following additional factors should be assessed for this group only
 - Diabetes
 - Heavy alcohol consumption (>3 drinks/day)
 - Smoke at least 1 pack of cigarettes a day
 - Underweight (<90% ideal body weight; for most people, this is a body mass index <20)
 - **OR** with radiologic descriptors demonstrated on chest x-ray (regardless of age)
- Individuals in correction institutions (regardless of age)
- Ophthalmologist referred individuals for assessment of Uveitis

Special Considerations

- Individuals who are eligible for TST but are known to have a **previous positive reaction** should be referred to their family/referring physician for chest radiograph. Public Health follow up is **NOT** required.
- Positive reactors referred by a specialty program/physician should be referred back to that program, with TST result and interpretation. The program/physician can then refer to TB Clinic.

Radiologic descriptors of TB

- The following descriptors may appear in radiography reports, and may suggest prior, inactive, or active TB disease:
 - suspicion of current active TB disease (e.g., upper lung zone pneumonic process, particularly if cavitating or if associated with the acinar shadows of endobronchial spread)
 - upper lobe fibronodular abnormality
 - old granulomatous disease or old tuberculosis (does not include single, isolated granuloma)
 - thoracoplasty
 - intrathoracic adenopathy with or without a lung parenchymal abnormality in an immune compromised person

Referral Process

- Refer above positive reactors for chest radiograph (unless pregnant) using the referral form (found at <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-07980.pdf>)
- Fax x-ray report with Tuberculosis Referral form to Edmonton TB Clinic:
- **Phone: 780-407-4550 Fax 780-407-4562**