

Tuberculosis (TB) Information

For Healthcare Providers

The Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services urges healthcare providers to be aware of ongoing TB outbreak linked to a local Single Room Occupancy (SRO) hotel in Long Beach.

RISK FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Consider TB disease as a cause of respiratory illness, especially those with risk factors of concern in this outbreak:

- Immunocompromised status or serious medical comorbidities
- Close contact with someone with active TB
- Residence in a congregate setting (prison/jail, shelter, or SRO)
- Experiencing homelessness or unstable housing
- Substance use

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS



Persistent cough lasting ≥ 2 weeks



Unexplained weight loss



Hemoptysis (coughing up blood)



Fever or night sweats

DIAGNOSTIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- Order an IGRA
- Order chest imaging (plain radiograph or CT scan). For children under five years old whose TB evaluation includes a chest radiograph, obtain a PA and lateral view
- Collect 3 sputum samples, including at least one induced sputum specimen, 8 hours apart for:
 - AFB smear
 - Mycobacterial culture
 - Nucleic acid amplification testing (e.g., Xpert MTB/RIF)

Radiographic findings compatible with active TB:

- Miliary, nodular, or cavitory lesions
- Lymphadenopathy (children and immunocompromised)
- Pleural effusions
- Infiltrates, particularly in upper lobes

Radiographic findings can vary, and a normal chest radiograph may be observed, especially in immunocompromised patients.

CONTACT MANAGEMENT

Patients who are identified as a contact to a person with active TB disease should be promptly evaluated. If TST or IRGA positive, Initiate treatment for latent TB infection promptly after excluding active TB disease.