

Tuberculosis Risk Assessment

Trumbull County Combined Health District	Department: Nursing Division
Effective Date: January 2021	Description: Annual Report
Next Review Date: January 2022	

I. INCIDENCE OF TB

There were no cases of active TB in Trumbull County in 2020. There have been no multi-drug resistant cases locally since 1998.

- No clusters of persons at the Trumbull County Combined Health District (TCCHD) with confirmed TB disease have been identified.
- Annual 1-step for all TCCHD clinic employees was last completed 12/12/2018.
- No employee of the TCCHD with confirmed TB disease has been identified for 2020.
- No employee has converted.

II. RISK CLASSIFICATION

Trumbull County Combined Health District is a local public health department.

Based on CDC guidelines of number of TB patients encountered, Trumbull County, Ohio is considered “low risk” in 2020.

III. SCREENING OF TCCHD’s TB Clinic Staff FOR *M. tuberculosis* INFECTION

- Baseline skin testing for TB Clinic Staff is performed with two-step TST. Known positive reactors return a symptoms questionnaire indicating whether or not they have experienced TB symptoms in the last year. All screening records are confidentially maintained.
- Annual TST will continue to be required for TCCHD clinic employees.
- The impact of an outbreak of TB or even an exposure of TB to untested employees is low based on Trumbull County’s risk of TB.

IV. TB INFECTION-CONTROL PROGRAM

The TB Control RN and Trumbull County EPI are responsible for the TB Infection Control Plan and Respiratory Control Plan for Trumbull County Combined Health District. The plan is reviewed and updated annually. Trumbull County Combined Health District is the Trumbull County Tuberculosis Clinic, and is the lead agency and member of the Trumbull County Preparedness Committee.

The Trumbull County Combined Health District Epidemiologist is an active member of the Trumbull County Infectious Disease Committee, inclusive of the Director of Nursing for Warren City Health Department; the Infectious Disease Nurses from HMPH- St. Joseph, Trumbull Memorial Hospital and Hillside Hospital. The Trumbull County Combined Health District Epidemiologist is an active member of the Northeast Central Ohio Epidemiology Workgroup made up of Epidemiologists from 13 northeast Ohio counties- Ashland, Carroll, Columbiana, Holmes, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Richland, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, and Wayne. This group meets quarterly.

The Ohio Department of Health provides support through their TB Program.

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V. IMPLEMENTATION OF TB INFECTION CONTROL PLAN

The Trumbull County Combined Health District Health Commissioner and Infectious Disease physician, TB Control RN, and Trumbull County EPI have been designated to be responsible for signing and implementing the Infection Control Plan and Respiratory Control Plan at Trumbull County Combined Health District. Based on a review of medical records, the average number of days for the following tasks to occur is shown:

No patients were seen at our clinic who were positive for TB in 2020

- a. Presentation of patient until collection of specimen: **n/a**
- b. Specimen collection until receipt by laboratory: **n/a**
- c. Receipt of specimen by laboratory until smear results are provided to health-care provider: **n/a**
- d. Diagnosis until initiation of standard anti-tuberculosis treatment: **n/a**
- e. Receipt of specimen by laboratory until culture results are provided to health-care provider: **n/a**
- f. Receipt of specimen by laboratory until drug-susceptibility results are provided to health-care provider: **n/a**
- g. Receipt of drug-susceptibility results until adjustment of anti-tuberculosis treatment, if indicated **n/a**
- h. Admission of patient to hospital until placement in airborne infection isolation (All): **n/a**

Lapses in infection control are usually brought to the TB Coordinator or Director of Nursing (DON) attention by employee reported observations. Quick resource response corrects these lapses.

On-going training and education regarding TB infection-control practices is provided to all TB Clinic Staff upon hire or as needed thereafter.

VI. LABORATORY PROCESSING OF TB-RELATED SPECIMENS, TESTS, AND RESULTS BASED ON LABORATORY REVIEW

All tests for TB-related specimens collected at the Trumbull County Combined Health District are sent to the Ohio Department of Health Laboratories. The usual transport time for specimens to reach the lab is 1 – 24-hour period. AFB smear results are reported within 24 hours of receipt of specimen.

TB specimens are sent to the Ohio Department of Health Laboratory.

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROLS

There is one negative pressure room for the Trumbull County Combined Health District for client examination and treatment. The actual air changes per hour are 12 ACH. The negative air room is monitored and negative pressure readings obtained by Thompson Mechanical of Warren, Ohio.

Negative pressure room installation was performed by Thompson Mechanical on October 31, 2011.

The room measures -12' x 10' x 8' = 980 cubic feet

- 12 air exchanges per hour will require an air volume of 11,520 cubic feet per hour (960 x 12)
- The fan needs to deliver a minimum of 192 cfm. (Cubic feet per minute) to exhaust 11,520 cubic feet per hour (192 x 60 minutes per hour-11,520 cubic feet per hour).

Original: 2012

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Updated: 1/20/2021

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- Thompson Mechanical checks the air differential readings. The results are recorded in TB program plan records. If the TB Examination room pressure is not negative, contracted provider will make the necessary repairs.

Thompson Mechanical reads air flow from the negative pressure exhaust fan on the following dates:

1. February 7, 2020- 280 cfm
 2. July 22, 2020- 200 cfm
 3. December 17, 2020- 195 cfm
- All readings were within normal limits

VIII. RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM

The policy for respiratory protection follows the CDC guidelines for respiratory protection. The policies and procedures for HCWs are maintained in the TCCHD “Respiratory Protection for Patient Care Areas”, reviewed and updated annually. The “TCCHD TB Control Plan” is reviewed and updated annually. TCCHD TB Staff in the respiratory program includes nurses, clerical and physicians. N-95 masks are intended for use when working with TB patients at the Trumbull County Combined Health District. The Trumbull County Combined Health District provides initial fit testing and respiratory protection education upon hire for the staff in the TB program; annual fit testing is provided through the TB program if changes have occurred.

Respiratory protection education is provided for the TB Staff involved in the program.

DEPARTMENTS ELIGIBLE FOR ANNUAL N95 FIT TESTING

1. Nursing Department
2. Contracted Medical Personnel

IX. REASSESSMENT OF TB RISK AT Trumbull County Combined Health District.

Opportunities for change identified during assessment	Actions - f/u from assessment
2020 Review Respiratory Protection Program with Health Commissioner, TB Medical Officer, TB Control RN and TCCHD CQI, ID, Safety Committee.	None needed at this time.