

Tuberculosis (TB) Outbreak Investigation in Southern Indiana—June 8, 2015

The Clark County Health Department (CCHD), the Floyd County Health Department (FCHD), and the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) are investigating a confirmed case of TB in a school student in Clark County. This student, diagnosed with TB on May 28, had active symptoms of TB, cavitory lesions on chest x-ray, acid-fast bacilli (AFB) smear of >50 organisms/field, and tested positive for TB via polymerase chain reaction. This particular strain is susceptible to isoniazid (INH) and Rifampin (RIF). This index case is currently isolated and responding well to treatment.

The CCHD launched a contact investigation using the concentric circle model on May 29. Approximately 260 students and staff were tested on June 2, and 43 individuals were identified as having positive TB skin tests (TSTs) on June 4. The contact investigation has been expanded to all students and staff of the school with a TST screening clinic scheduled on June 8. Results will be read on Wednesday June 10. The FCHD conducted a contact investigation of venues that the index case visited which include a church. Contact investigations are pending at a doctor's office and local hospital.

One secondary suspect TB case with symptoms and positive chest x-ray has been identified; another individual with a positive chest x-ray without symptoms has been identified. The remaining positive TST responders are being evaluated by private health care providers with the recommendation to start treatment for latent TB infection (LTBI).

Health care providers are strongly encouraged ask about travel history and exposure to TB in patients presenting with symptoms of TB, including cough lasting several weeks, fatigue, fever, night sweats, chills, and/or abnormal chest x-rays and obtain sputum samples for AFB smears and culture.

Treatment guidelines for active TB disease can be found at "Treatment for Tuberculosis" at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5211a1.htm>.

Treatment guidelines for LTBI can be found in "Targeted Tuberculin Testing and Treatment of Latent Tuberculosis Infection" at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr4906a1.htm> and "Recommendations for Use of an Isoniazid-Rifapentine Regimen with Direct Observation to Treat Latent *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Infection" at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6048a3.htm?s_cid=mm6048a3_w. This combined regimen must be given using directly observed therapy.

Providers who conduct TB screening testing related to this outbreak should send results to the local health department where the patient resides and should refer patients back to the local health department for LTBI treatment if the DOT regimen is used. Contact the Clark County Health Department at 812-284-6609 and the Floyd County Health Department at 812-948-4726.

For other questions or concerns, please contact the ISDH TB/Refugee Health Program at 317-233-7434 from 8:15-4:45 M-F or the ISDH Duty Officer at 317-233-7125 outside of normal business hours.