Objectives

• Provide an overview of TB epidemiology in Texas correctional facilities
• Describe the Texas Correctional Planning Committee (CPC) mission, composition and guiding principles
• Share CPC Action Plan updates for 2017
TB in Correctional Facilities

- In 2016, 1,250 cases of TB were reported in Texas, a rate of 4.5 per 100,000.
- Higher than the 1.9 median state incidence and the 2.9 national incidence rate.
- Texas, California, New York and Florida accounted for 50.9% of all TB reported cases.
- Texas’ incarceration rate is the second highest in the U.S.
- More people are incarcerated in Texas than in any other state.
TB in Correctional Facilities

- In 2016, 11.6% of Texas cases occurred among people incarcerated at the time of diagnosis compared to 3.5% in the U.S.
- TB outbreaks continue to occur in correctional settings, posing a greater risk for widespread transmission.
- Lapses in communication and coordination between public health and correctional groups often result in continuity of care failures.
CPC Mission

The mission of the Corrections Planning Committee is to improve tuberculosis prevention and care in Texas correctional and detention facilities.
CPC Guiding Principles

• The Action Plan is the framework for the CPC.
• The CPC seeks to discover new and innovative ways to coordinate TB services and enhance program collaboration and partnerships to use resources more efficiently and effectively.
• Committee membership is deliberately diverse to take advantage or multiple disciplines and shared knowledge for a holistic approach to problem solving.
• CPC meetings focus on systems and processes, rather than individuals. The emphasis is on identifying gaps and opportunities for improvement rather than blaming agencies or individuals.
CPC Membership

Total: 37

Public Health: 24
Corrections: 13

Total: 37
Total: 12

- Healthcare Administrator: 2
- Nurse: 6
- Operations: 2
- Regulatory: 2
Public Health Experts

Total: 25

- TB Program Manager
- Physician
- Nurse
- Correctional Liaison
- Epidemiologist
- Education and Training Specialist
- Contact Investigations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TB Program Manager</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correctional Liaison</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epidemiologist</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and Training Specialist</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Investigations</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CPC Action Plan

Living document that outlines:
• Defined strategic priorities
• Objectives
• Activities to achieve objectives
2017 Action Plan: Strategic Priorities

1. Promote the use of new and existing **TB screening tools** for earlier and better TB screening and diagnosis.

2. Enhance **TB contact and cluster investigations** based on best practices, sound evidence and multi-agency collaboration.

3. Improve **discharge planning and continuity of care** by providing guidance and fostering collaboration between public health departments, correctional facilities and TB patients.

4. Increase **education and training** opportunities related to TB in correctional and detention facilities.

5. Advance **ongoing communication** between public health and correction partners to ensure a successful and sustainable alliance for TB prevention and control.
Priority 1: TB Screening Tools

- Revised DSHS TB Symptoms Screening form (Publication # TB-810 & TB-810-E)
- Redesigned Correctional TB Screening Plan (Publication # TB-805)
- Asks jails if they conduct TB symptoms screening on intake.
- If they answer “No”, the plan approval letter includes a recommendation to do it.
- Published the new Facility TB Risk Assessment Form (Publication # TB-800)
Priority 2: TB Contact and Cluster Investigations

- Two new forms were reviewed by the CPC in 2016 and have been published in DSHS’ website:
  - Infectious Period Calculation Sheet (publication # TB-425)
  - TB CI Expansion Analysis (publication # EF12-15017).
- DSHS Congregate Settings team and epi teams are now providing more consistent technical assistance
  - Incident reports
  - Genotyping clusters
  - TB cases or conversions clusters identified through monthly reports and annual risk assessments.
Priority 2: TB contact and cluster investigations (Cont.)

- Two new forms will be presented to the CPC for consideration in 2017:
  - Tuberculosis Contact Investigation Social History Interview
  - Environmental Risk Assessment for Congregate Correctional Settings.
- Data analysis tips will be provided with DSHS’ annual corrections report for health departments and the Jail Administrator Report in 2017.
Priority 3: Discharge Planning and Continuity of Care

- Guidelines and resources for release planning and continuity of care were included in the new *DSHS Tuberculosis Standards for Correctional and Detention Facilities*.
- The guidelines will be revised and enhanced at the CPC meeting in 2007.
- Ellen Murray, PhD, BSN, Training Coordinator from Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center will provide expert guidance.
Priority 3: Discharge Planning and Continuity of Care (Cont.)

- The brochure *Tuberculosis Case Management for Undocumented and Deportable Inmates/Prisoners/ Detainees in Federal Custody* was updated in 2017.

- The DSHS corrections resources webpage was updated in 2017.
  
  [http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsvh/corrections_references/](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsvh/corrections_references/)
Priority 4: Education and Training

In March 24, 2017, DSHS hosted the World TB Day webinar “Translating TB Epidemiology Concepts into Practice”.

The DSHS’ website TB FAQs were updated in 2017.

An email blast was sent to health departments and Chapter 89 jails announcing:

- New TB forms in May 2017
- New TB guidelines for corrections
The Council on State and Territorial Epidemiologists released a new position statement for “Establishing a Case Definition for Latent TB Infection (TB Infection)”. Based on the DSHS’ recommendation, “history of incarceration” was added as a disease-specific data element.
Priority 5: Ongoing Communication

- DSHS approved funding for the 4th Annual Correctional Planning Committee in 2017.
- Since November 2016, DSHS and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) have been meeting quarterly to discuss TB prevention and control in state prisons.
- In April 2017, other DSHS programs joined the recurring meeting to discuss other communicable diseases.
Priority 5: Ongoing Communication (Cont.)

- DSHS is currently developing MAVEN.
- Release 1 was in September 12, 2016.
- Release 3 is planned for March 14, 2018.
- This release includes data collection modules (called question packages) for corrections.
Thank you

Raiza M. Ruiz
Raiza.ruiz@dshs.texas.gov
References

• DSHS. (2016) TB Statistics. Data pending publication


• Althomsons, Sandy; Krammerer, J Steven; Shang, Nong; Navin, Thomas R. (2012) Using Routinely Reported Tuberculosis Genotyping and Surveillance Data to Predict Tuberculosis Outbreaks.