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TEXAS BINATIONAL TB PROJECTS



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Continuity of Care Among Foreign Transfers



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- Challenges:
 - Detainees deported without referrals
 - Treatment interruptions resulting in TB complications
 - Family members exposed
- What are the solutions?

Continuity of Care Among Foreign Transfers



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Partners

- Texas Binational Programs
- Cure TB
- TB Net

Discussion

- What are your key continuity of care challenges that your programs experiences in Texas?

Binational TB Case Definition

- The client lives in Mexico but has relatives in the US
- The client has dual residency in the US and Mexico
- The client has contacts on both sides of the border.
- The client starts treatment in the U.S. but returns to live in Mexico
- TB clients referred from the U.S for treatment or follow-up



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Binational Program

- The first Binational TB Project “JUNTOS” was formally established in 1991
- Public Health Advisor assigned May 2015 to Region 11 Harlingen, Texas
- PHA conducted on-site reviews of each project.
- Patients with a binational link are seen for directly observed therapy, labs, clinical care and education
- Heartland National TB center provides expert consultation for complicated cases and provides TB intense training for binational nurses
- Criminal activities are a huge challenge for binational staff and patients as is incarceration and gang affiliations.



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Texas Binational TB Projects



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Contact Details for Referrals

- ❑ Los Dos Laredos- **Nuevo Laredo**
956-795-4911 City of Laredo Health Department
- ❑ Grupo Sin Fronteras – **Harlingen**
956-423-0130 Health Service Region 11
- ❑ Proyecto JUNTOS – **El Paso**
915-834-7792 Health Service Region 9/10
- ❑ Proyecto Esperanza y Amistad- **Eagle Pass and Piedras Negras**
830-513-8070 Health Service Region 8



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Area of Responsibility

When do you refer to the Binational Projects?

- Subject has a confirmed address within the Projects' designated cities
- Subject has contacts within the binational projects' areas



What do you need to send?

- Complete patient record including current labs, culture results, radiology reports, delivery of medication records
- Prefer a patient interview over the phone but not required.
- Patient confidentiality if not already acquired
- Medication for travel days with instructions



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What do they do?

- Patient Care/Case Management
- DOT (Directly Observed Therapy)
- Home Visits
- Contact Investigation
- Communication
- Education
- Psychological and emotional support
- Collect specimens (blood, sputum, QFT'S)





Challenges

- Treatment interruptions due to mobility
- Violence
- Travel restrictions
- Criminal activities of patient
 - Incarceration
 - Gang affiliation
- Lack of uniformity between the TB control programs





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Thank you

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