

**Texas Department of State Health Services** 

# TB Contact Investigation Data Entry and Creating TB Contact Records in NEDSS April 23, 2025

Epidemiology Team
Texas Department of State Health Services
Tuberculosis and Hansen's Disease Unit

#### **Outline**

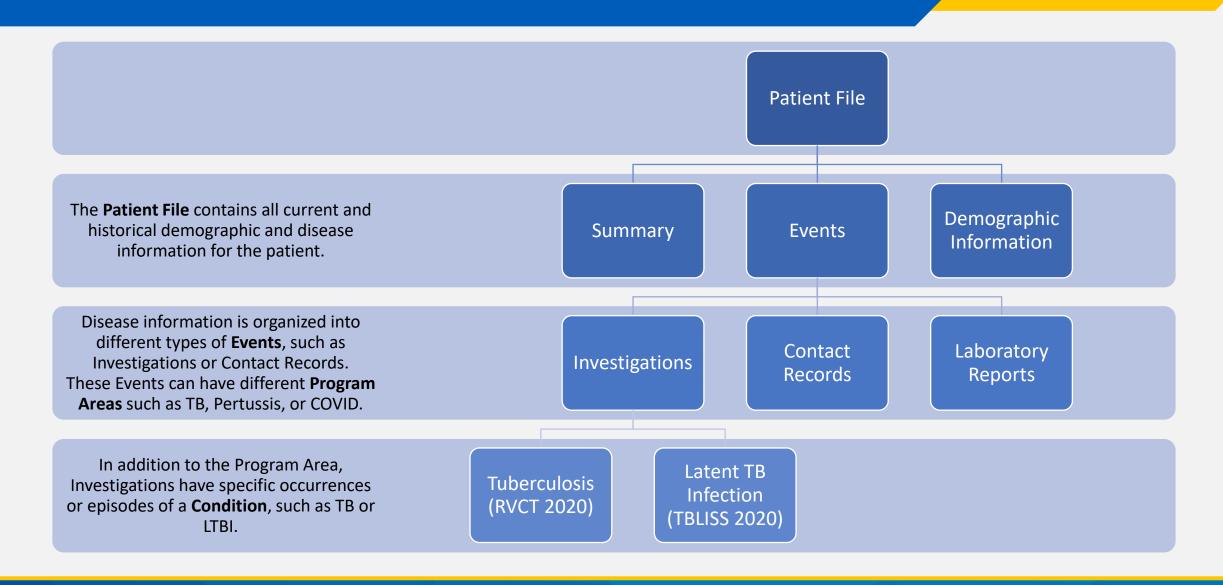
- Review key terminology
- Describe steps for entering TB Contact Investigation data
- Describe steps for creating a TB Contact Record

### **Key Terminology**

### **Key NEDSS Terminology**

- <u>Patient File-</u> Where the patient's demographic and surveillance information is complied. Multiple Events for one person are stored together in the patient file.
- **Event-** Surveillance information associated with a patient such as an investigation, lab report, morbidity report, vaccination record, treatments, documents, and contact records.
- <u>Investigation</u> Type of event in NEDSS with information regarding one incidence of a disease. The bulk of TB data entry occurs here.
- **Contact Record** Type of event in NEDSS that links two investigations.

#### **Information Structure in NEDSS**



### **Key Contact Investigation Terminology**

- <u>Case-</u> person with suspected or confirmed TB disease; may also be referred to as the source or index case
  - Index Case- the initial TB case that prompts a contact investigation
  - **Source Case-** the TB case responsible for transmitting *M. tuberculosis* to others

<u>Contacts-</u> persons exposed to someone with infectious TB;
 can include family members, co-workers, friends, and others

### **Key Terminology**



- Investigations (1)				
Start Date	<u>Status</u>	Condition		
12/29/2023	Open	Tuberculosis (2020 RVC		

Contact Records (3)					
Contacts Named by Patient:					
he following contacts were named in Calgary Olyn					
<u>Date Created</u>	<u>Name/Relationship</u>	<u>Da</u>			
) <u>9/23/2024</u> 5:03 PM	A, Contact	01/			

#### **Contact Investigation**

Process to identify, find, and assess TB contacts and provide appropriate treatment

#### **NEDSS Investigation**

Type of event in NEDSS that contains detailed information regarding one occurrence or episode of a disease

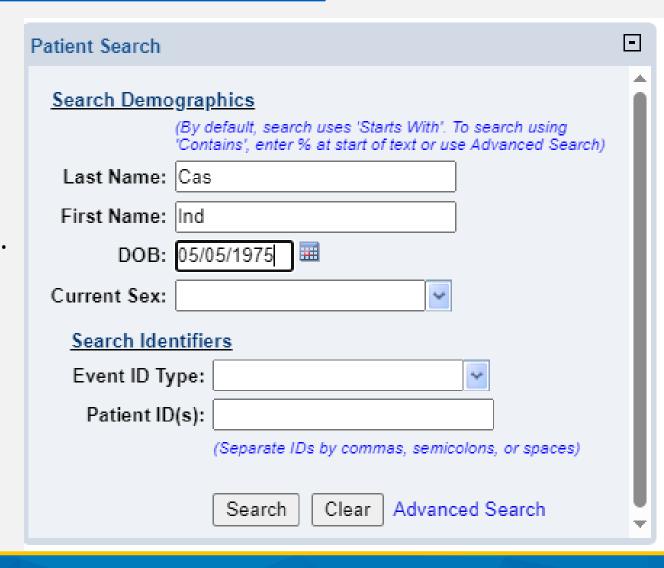
#### NEDSS Contact Record

Type of event in NEDSS that links two NEDSS investigations

# Entering TB Contact Investigation Data in NEDSS

### **Conduct a Thorough Patient Search**

- Always conduct a search. The patient may be in NEDSS due to another condition.
- **Search broadly.** Enter the first three letters of the first name, last name, and date of birth (exact or date range).
- Review the search results carefully.
   Consider if the search should be refined before creating a new Patient File or Investigation



### Three Steps for Entering Contact Investigation Data in NEDSS



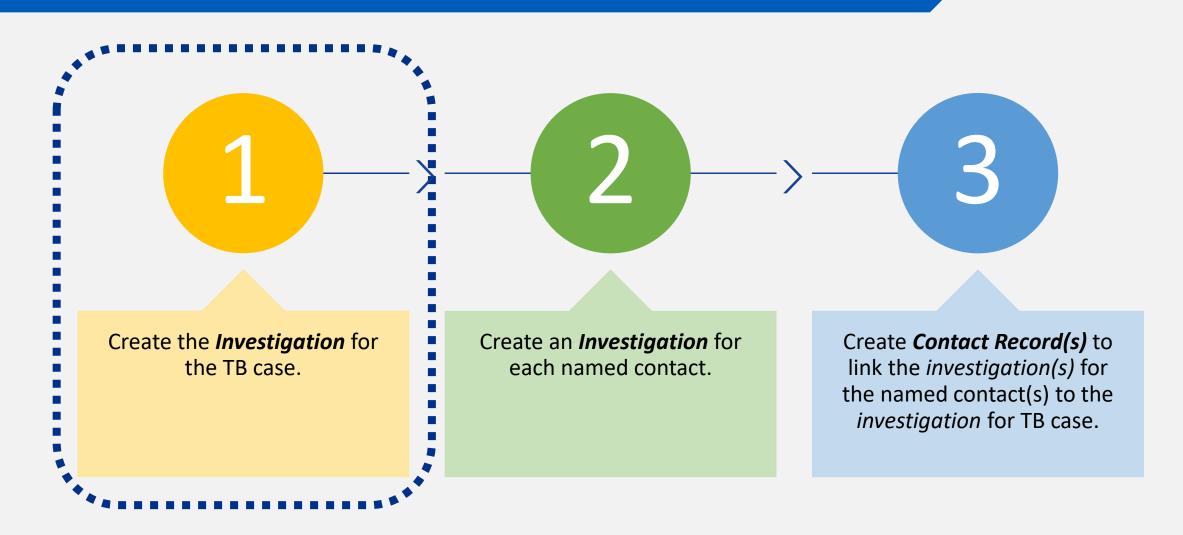
Create the *Investigation* for the TB case.

Create an *Investigation* for each named contact.

Create *Contact Record(s)* to link the *investigation(s)* for the named contact(s) to the *investigation* for TB case.

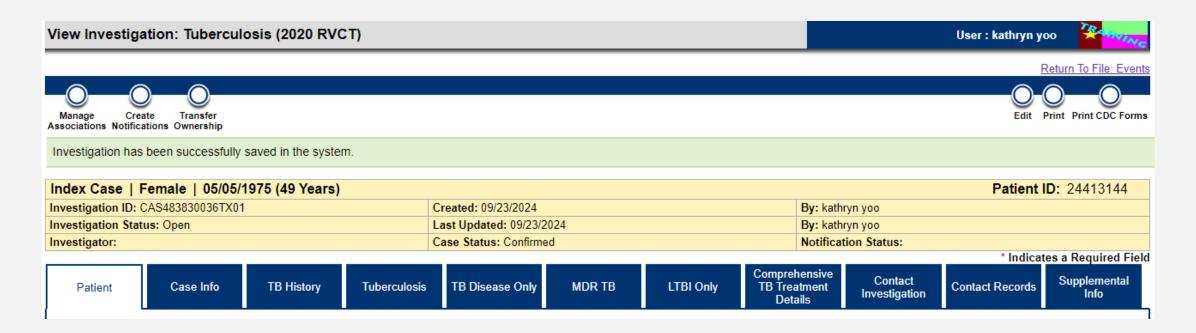
# Step 1: Create an Investigation for the TB Case

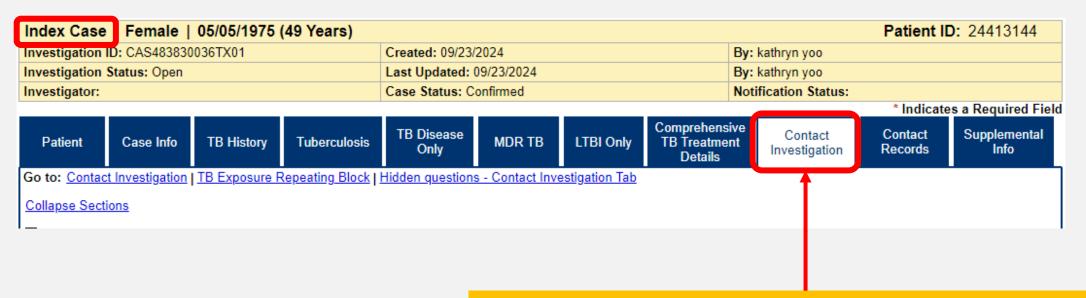
#### **Entering Contact Investigation Data in NEDSS**



### **Create the Investigation for the TB Case**

- Always create a <u>Tuberculosis (2020 RVCT)</u> investigation for all persons with suspected or confirmed TB disease
- Enter all demographic and diagnostic information



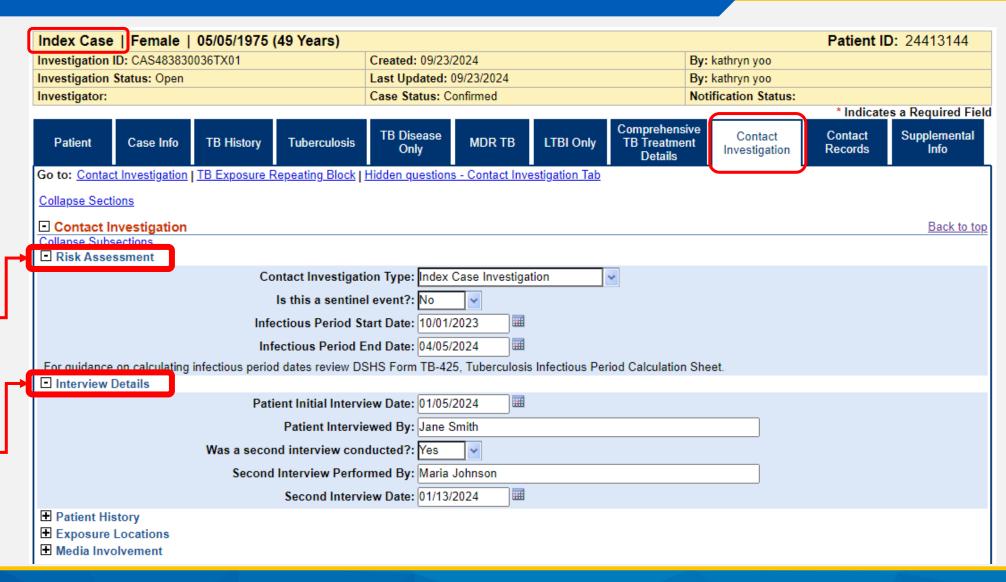


In Edit Mode, go to the **Contact Investigation Tab** of the TB Case's NEDSS investigation.

Here enter details about the contact investigation conducted for this episode of TB disease for the TB case.

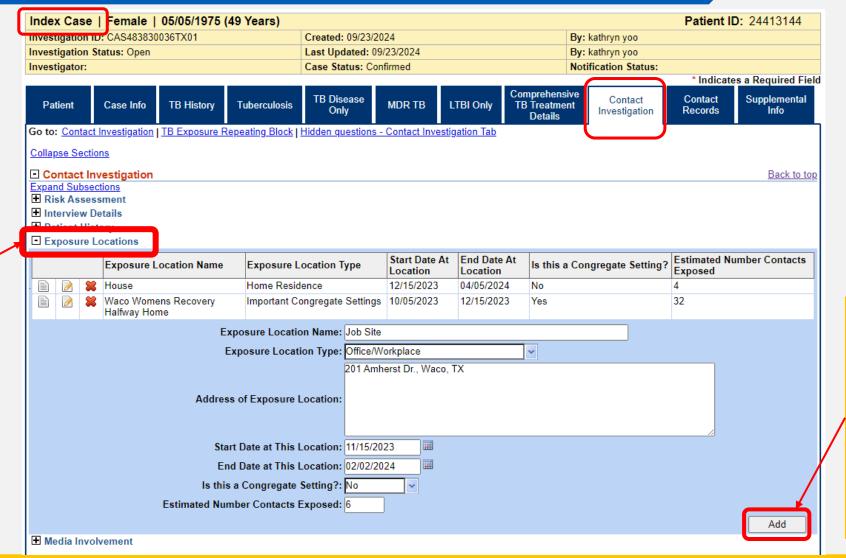
In the Risk
Assessment
subsection enter
the type of
contact
investigation and
infectious period
dates.

In the Interview
Details
subsection enter
information on
the patient
interviews.

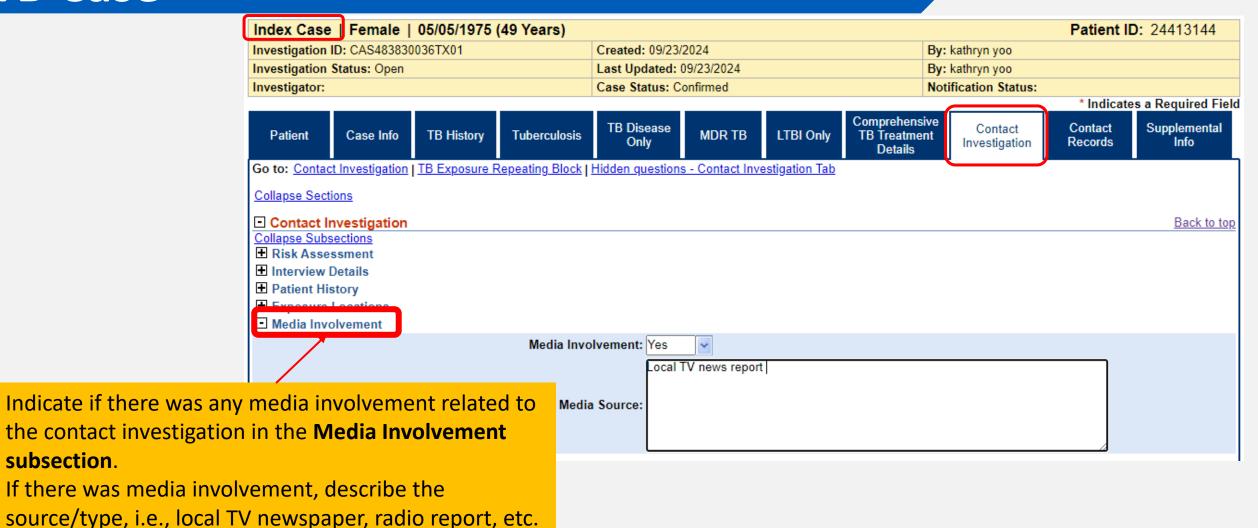


Index Case | Female | 05/05/1975 (49 Years) Patient ID: 24413144 Investigation ID: CAS483830036TX01 Created: 09/23/2024 By: kathryn yoo Investigation Status: Open Last Updated: 09/23/2024 By: kathryn yoo Investigator: Case Status: Confirmed **Notification Status:** \* Indicates a Required Field Comprehensive **TB** Disease Contact Contact Supplemental TB History MDR TB LTBI Only TB Treatment Patient Case Info Tuberculosis Only Records Investigation Go to: Contact Investigation | TB Exposure Repeating Block | Hidden guestions - Contact Investigation Tab Collapse Sections ■ Contact Investigation Back to top Expand Subsections Risk Assessment Patient History Congregate Setting History (within past 2 years): Yes (Use Ctrl to select more than one) **Enter congregate** Foster Home Group Home setting and travel Congregate Setting Type: Homeless Shelter history information Selected Values: Halfway House in the **Patient** Other Congregate Setting Type: REMINDER: Submit DSHS Form 12-12104, Incident Report Form, to Central Office (TBEpi@dshs.texas.gov) **History subsection.** Has patient traveled while experiencing TB symptoms?: Yes (Use Ctrl to select more than one) Airplane Transportation Mode: Other Selected Values: Bus Length of Trip (hours): 4 REMINDER: Contact Central Office (TBEpi@dshs.texas.gov) if Flight Investigation or Travel Restriction Indicated **■ Exposure Locations ★** Media Involvement

In the Exposure
Locations
subsection, enter
all locations
where TB
exposure may
have occurred
during the
infectious period

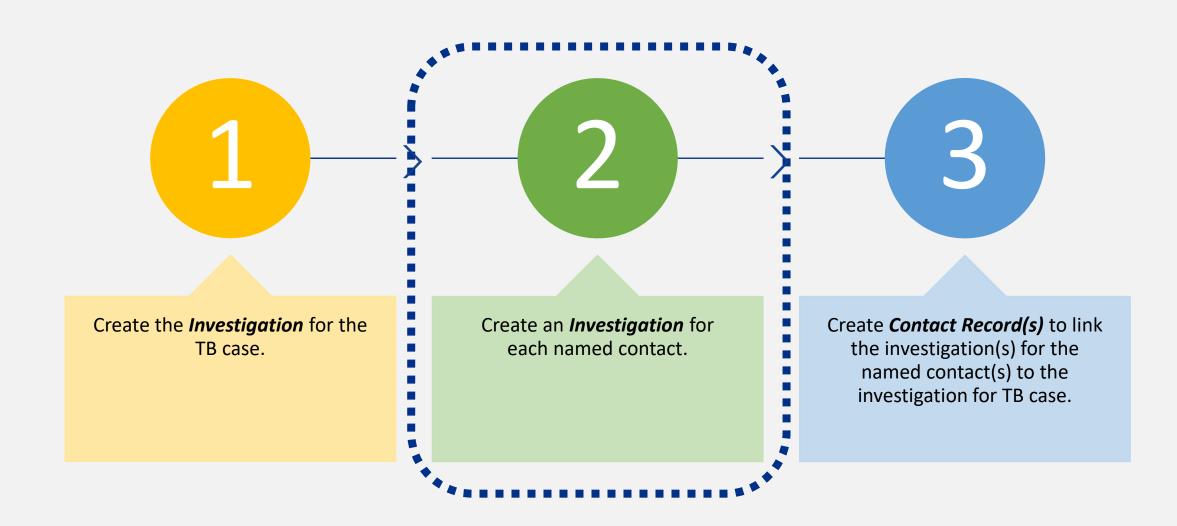


The Exposure
Locations is a
repeating block
formatted
question.
Click the 'Add'
button to enter
each location



# Step 2: Create an Investigation for Each Named Contact

#### **Entering Contact Investigation Data in NEDSS**



#### **Create Investigation(s) for Named Contact(s)**

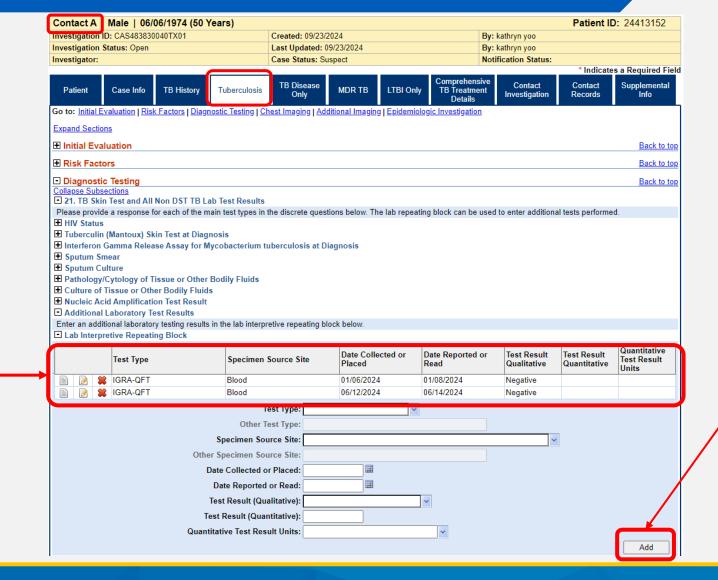
- Named contacts should not have an ATS classification assigned until evaluation is complete
- Always create a <u>Tuberculosis (2020 RVCT)</u> investigation, *unless* the patient has confirmed LTBI when creating the investigation
- Enter all demographic information

Investigation has been successfully saved in the	system.	
Company A   Mala   05/05/4074 (50 Vanua	<b>\</b>	Patient ID: 04440450
Contact A Male   06/06/1974 (50 Years	1	Patient ID: 24413152
Investigation ID: CAS483830040TX01	Created: 09/23/2024	By: kathryn yoo
Investigation Status: Open	Last Updated: 09/23/2024	By: kathryn yoo
Investigator:	Case Status: Suspect	Notification Status:
Contact B   Female   02/02/1982 (42 Ye	ars)	Patient ID: 24413154
Investigation ID: CAS483830041TX01	Created: 09/23/2024	By: kathryn yoo
Investigation Status: Open	Last Updated: 09/23/2024	By: kathryn yoo
Investigator:	Case Status: Suspect	Notification Status:

### **Enter Contact Investigation Data for the Named Contact**

In Edit Mode, go to the **Tuberculosis Tab** of the Named Contact's NEDSS investigation.

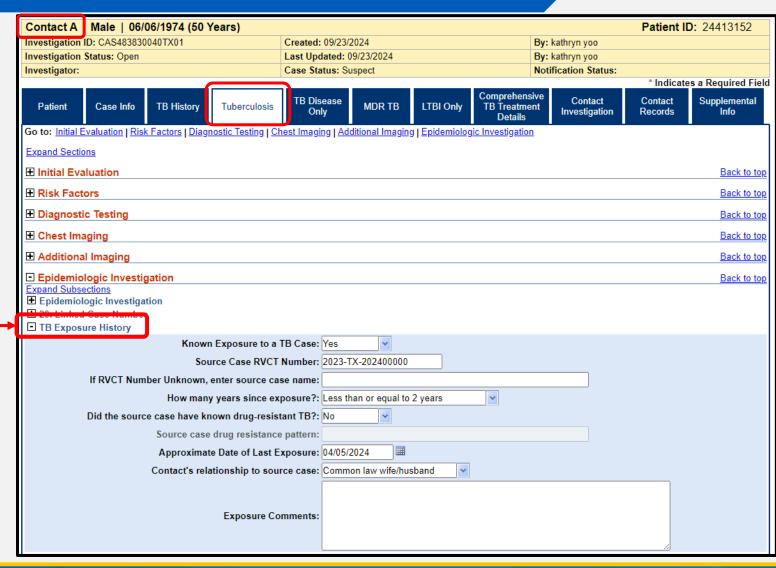
Enter *any* testing performed as part of the contact evaluation, such as IGRA test results.



For repeating block formatted questions, click the 'Add' button to enter each result.

### **Enter Contact Investigation Data for the Named Contact**

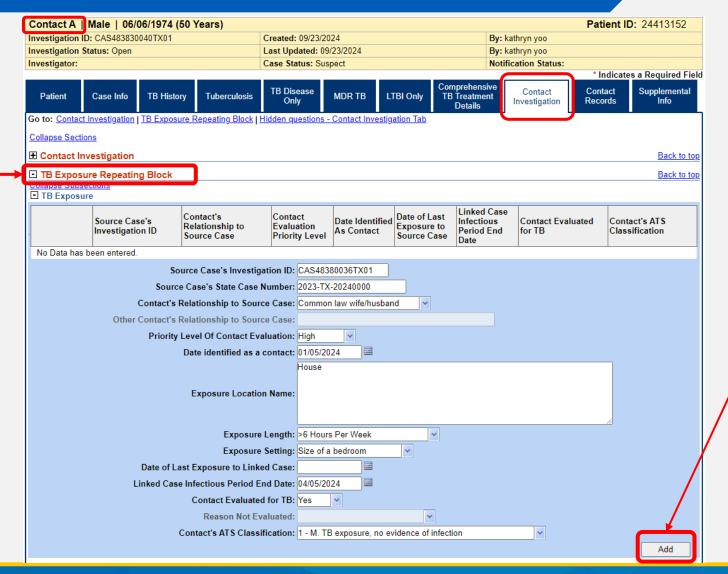
Also in the Tuberculosis Tab, enter all available information in the TB Exposure History subsection.



### **Enter Contact Investigation Data for the Named Contact**

In the Contact
Investigation Tab enter
details about the named
contact's exposure to the
TB case.

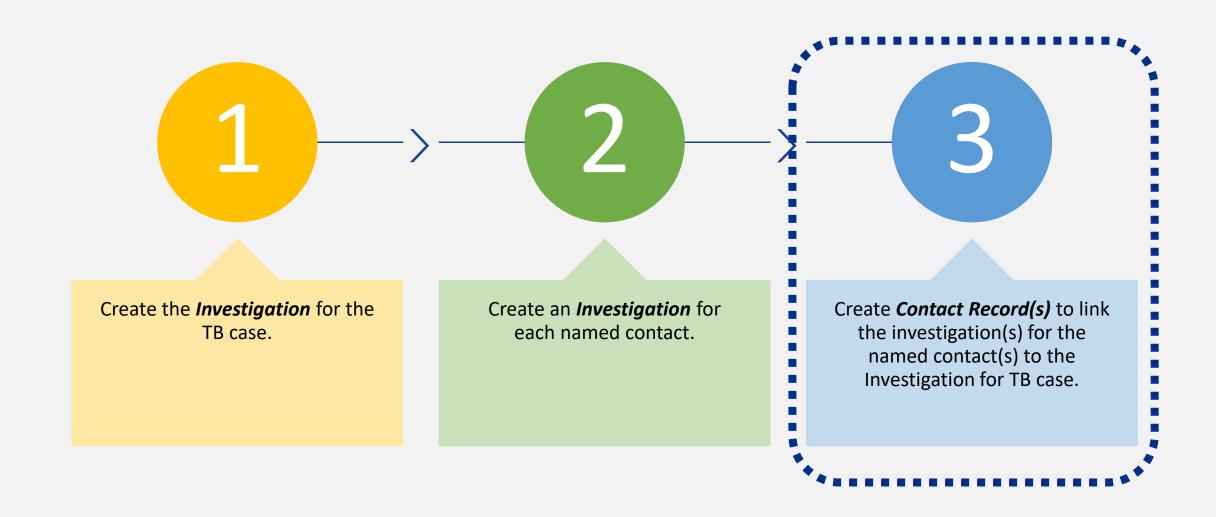
Do **NOT** enter an ATS Classification until the contact has had a complete evaluation.



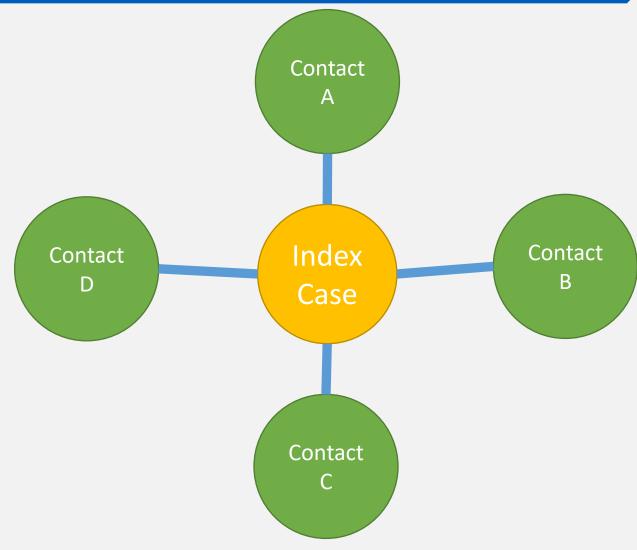
For repeating block formatted questions, click the 'Add' button to enter each result.

### Step 3: Creating Contact Records

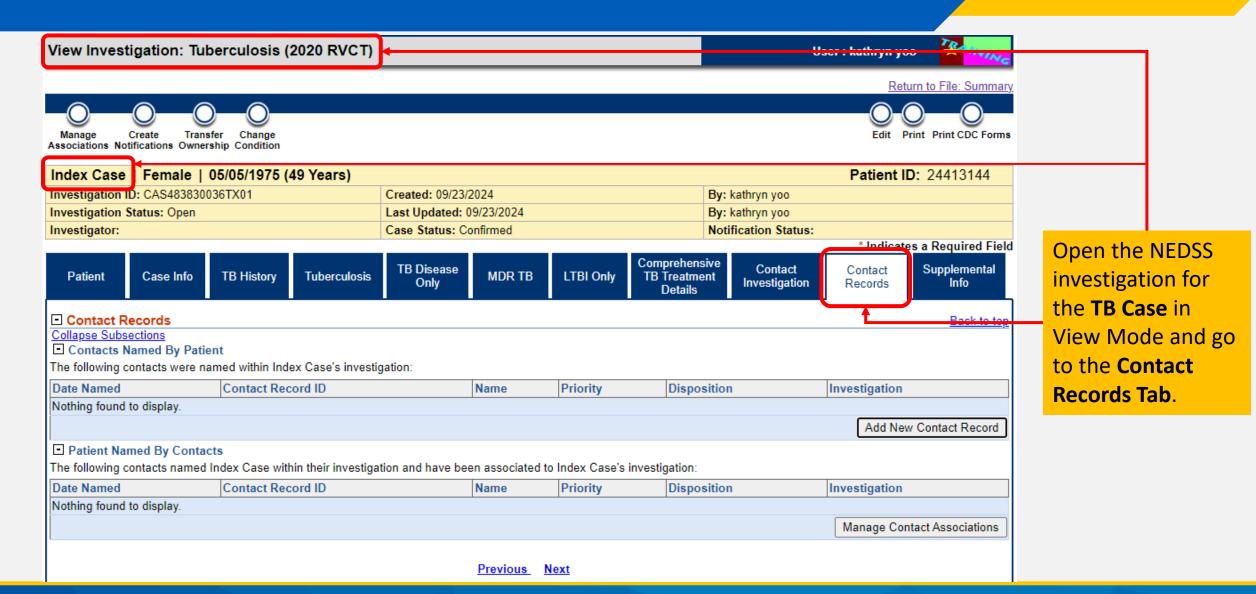
### **Entering Contact Investigation Data in NEDSS**



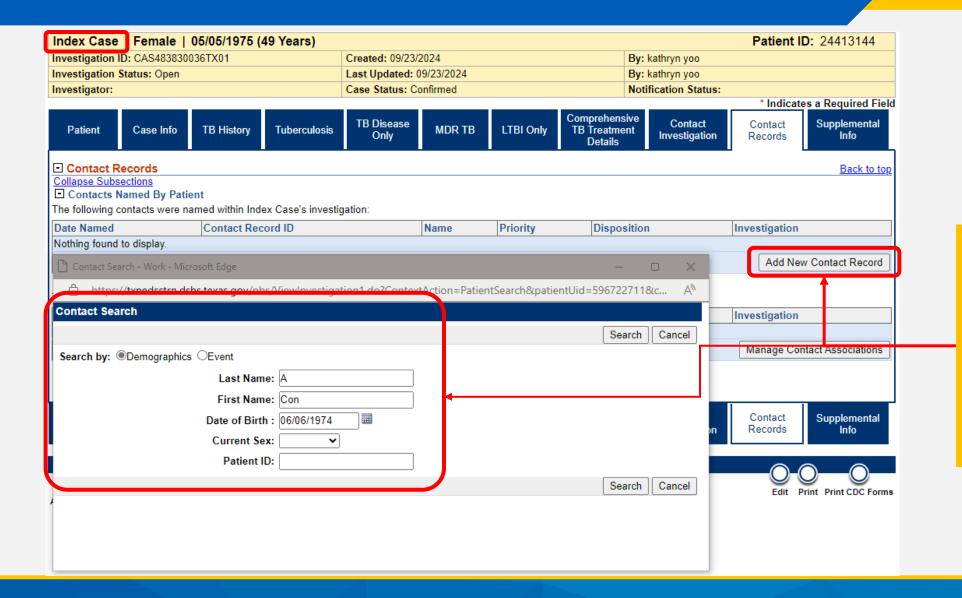
### Create the Contact Record to Link Two Investigations



#### **Create the Contact Record**



#### Add a New Contact Record



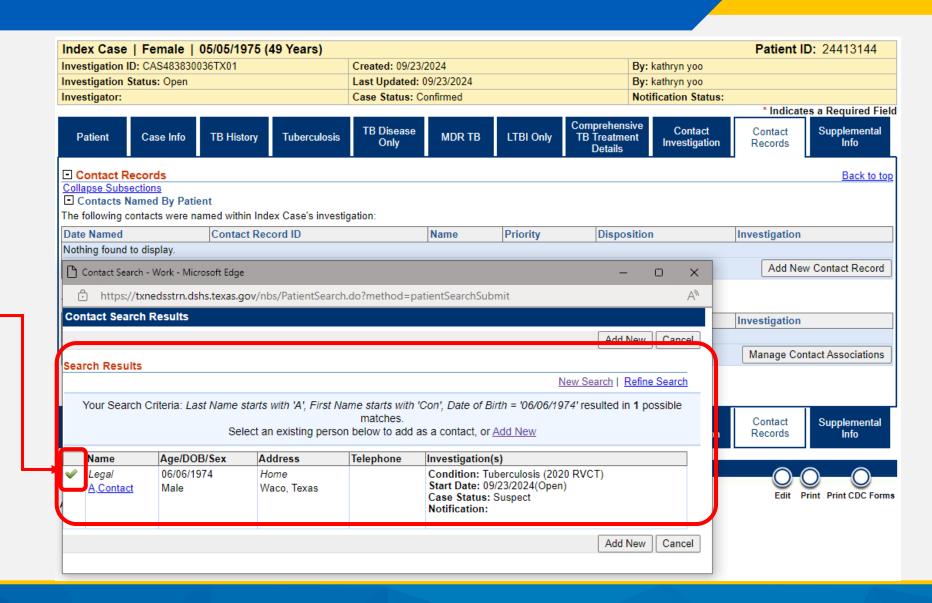
Click 'Add New
Contact Record'
and a new Contact
Search window will
open.

Search for the Named Contact.

#### **Search and Select the Named Contact**

The Named
Contact, their
demographic
information, and
TB/LTBI
investigations will
be displayed in the
search results
table.

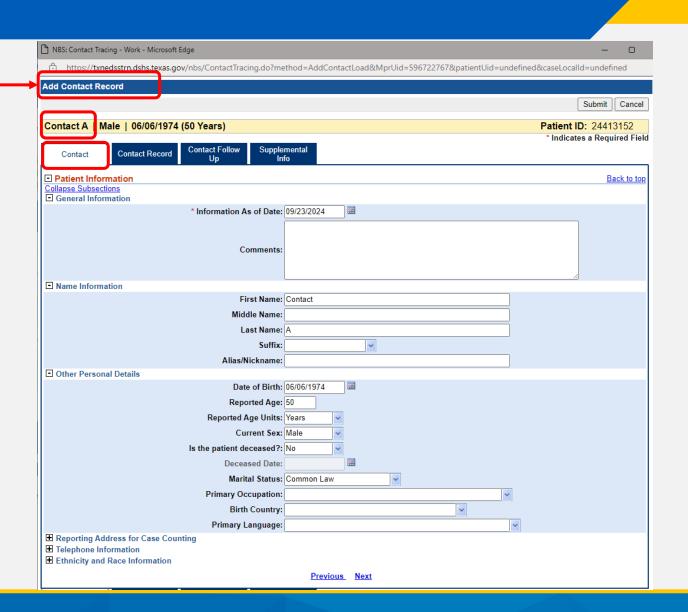
Click the **green checkmark** next to the named contact to be linked.



#### **Add Contact Record: Contact Tab**

Clicking the green checkmark will open the *Add Contact Record* window.

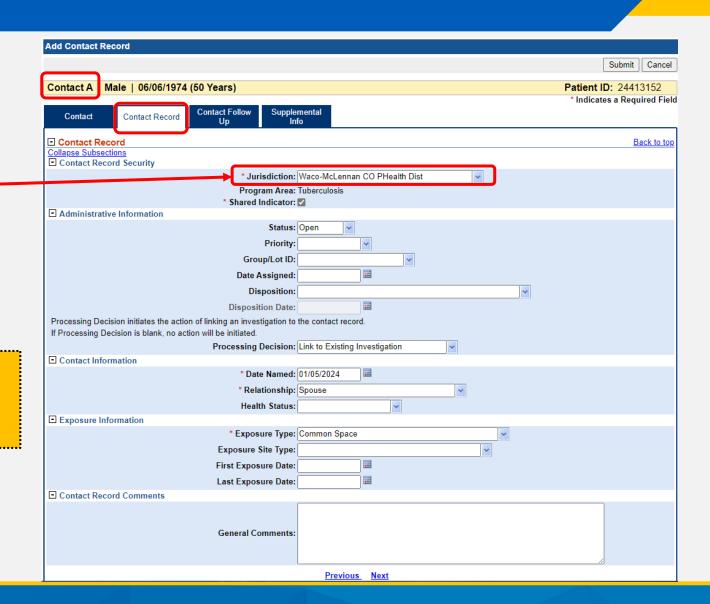
On the **Contact tab**, confirm the named contact's demographic information populated correctly from their NEDSS Patient File.



On the **Contact Record tab**, ensure the

Jurisdiction matches the
jurisdiction of the source
case. This may be
different from the
jurisdiction of the named
contact's NEDSS
investigation.

Once the Contact Record is saved the jurisdiction *CANNOT* be changed.

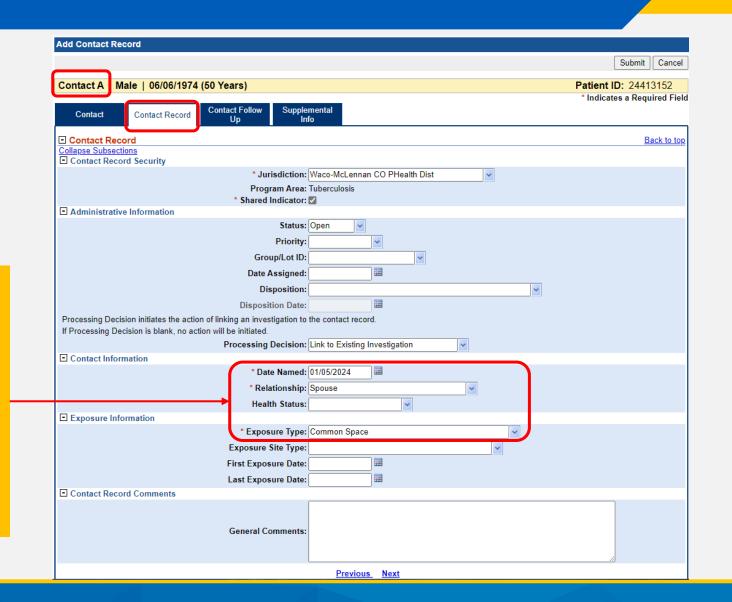


Add Contact Record Submit | Cancel Contact A Male | 06/06/1974 (50 Years) Patient ID: 24413152 \* Indicates a Required Field Contact Follow Supplemental Contact Record Contact Info Contact Record Back to top Collapse Subsections ■ Contact Record Security \* Jurisdiction: Waco-McLennan CO PHealth Dist Program Area: Tuberculosis \* Shared Indicator: <a></a> ■ Administrative Information Status: Open Priority: Group/Lot ID: Date Assigned: On the **Contact** Disposition: Disposition Date: **Record tab** select Processing Decision initiates the action of linking an investigation to the contact record. If Processing Decision is blank, no action will be initiated Link to Existing Processing Decision: Link to Existing Investigation ■ Contact Information *Investigation* as the \* Date Named: 01/05/2024 \* Relationship: Spouse **Processing Decision.** Health Status: ■ Exposure Information \* Exposure Type: Common Space **Exposure Site Type:** First Exposure Date: Last Exposure Date: ■ Contact Record Comments **General Comments:** Previous Next

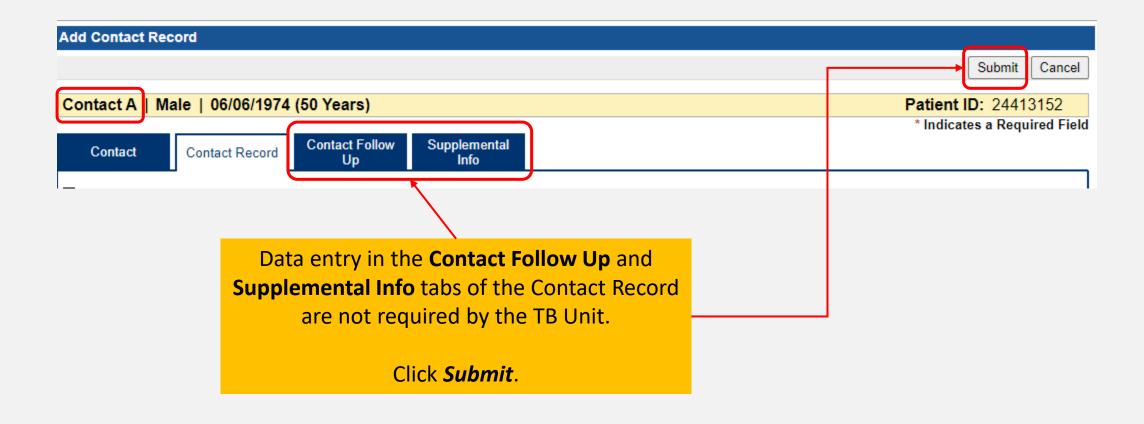


- Date Named
- Relationship
- Exposure Type

The Exposure Type should always be *Common Space*.



### Add Contact Record: Contact Follow Up and Supplemental Info Tabs

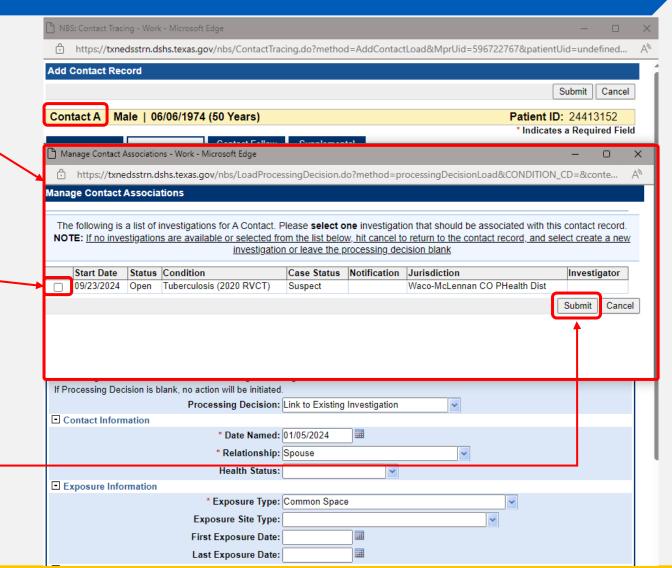


### Add Contact Record: Select the Named Contact's NEDSS Investigation

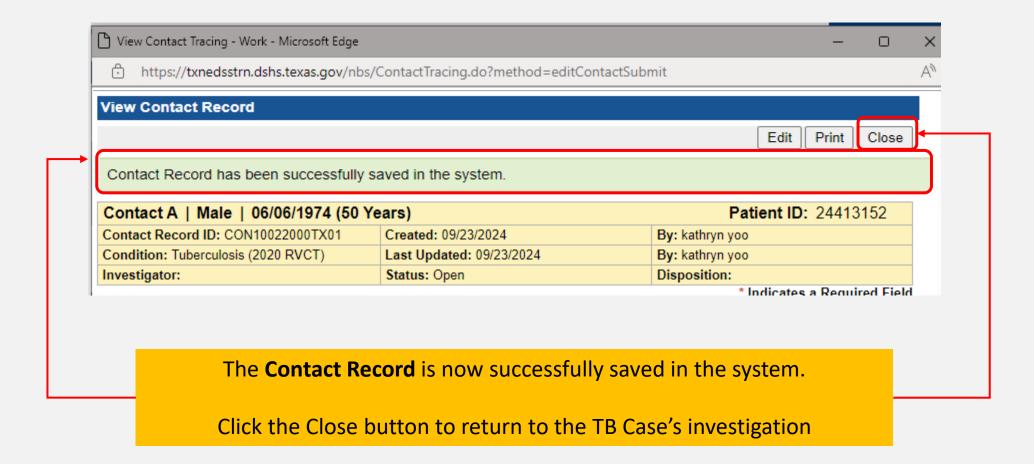
A second new window will open listing all investigation(s) for the named contact.

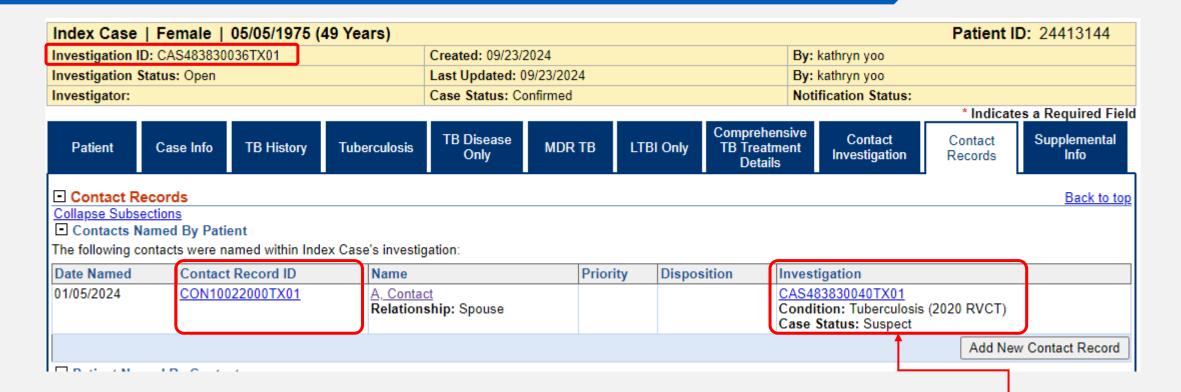
Review the information and select the correct investigation to be linked by clicking the **check box** next to the start date.

Then click **Submit**.



#### **Add Contact Record**





The NEDSS investigation for the named contact (CAS483830040TX01) is now linked to the NEDSS investigation for the TB Case (CAS483830036TX01) via the contact record (CON10022000TX01)

### Reminders

### **Update Information Throughout the Contact Investigation**

Contact investigation data that may need to be updated throughout the contact investigation process for the **TB Case** includes, but is not limited to:

Case Info Tab

**ATS Classification** 

**Tuberculosis Tab** 

Smear and culture laboratory results indicating smear and culture conversion

Contact Investigation Tab:
Contact Investigation
Section

Infectious Period Start and End
Dates

Interview information

Travel information

**Exposure Locations** 

Media Involvement

### **Update Information Throughout the Contact Investigation**

Contact investigation data that may need to be updated throughout the contact investigation process for the **Named Contact** includes, but is not limited to:

Case Info Tab

**ATS Classification** 

**Tuberculosis Tab** 

TST, IGRA, and other laboratory testing results as necessary

Chest Imaging results

TB Disease Only Tab

TB disease information for any contacts diagnosed with TB disease LTBI Only Tab

LTBI specific information for any contacts diagnosed with LTBI Comprehensive TB Treatment Details Tab

Detailed medication information for any contacts on treatment (including window prophylaxis)

Contact
Investigation Tab: TB
Exposure Repeating
Block Section

TB Case's State Case Number

TB Case's Infectious Period End Date

Date of Last Exposure to TB Case

Contact Evaluated for TB

**Reason Not Evaluated** 

Contact's ATS Classification

### **Key Takeaways**



**ALWAYS** create NEDSS investigations first



**ONLY** create contact records after the NEDSS investigations for the TB case and named contact(s) are created



**ALWAYS** select 'Link to Existing Investigation' as the Processing Decision



**PLEASE** request Patient and/or Investigation merges as soon as duplicates are identified

#### Resources

National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS) for Tuberculosis Programs | Texas DSHS

- Texas NEDSS User Guide for Tuberculosis Programs
- Texas NEDSS Data Entry Guide for Tuberculosis Programs
- NEDSS Training Courses for Regional and Local Health Departments, Course 6: Contact Investigations
- NEDSS Training Modules for Data Entry Contractors, Module 7: Contact Investigation Tab
- NEDSS Training Modules for Data Entry Contractors, Module 10: Contact Records

NEDSS Support Helpdesk (smartsheet.com)

Email TBEpi@dshs.texas.gov

### Questions?

TBEpi@dshs.texas.gov