

Cure TB: Binational TB Referral Program (Between the United States and Mexico)




Purpose:

- To facilitate and support the continuity of care for active tuberculosis suspects and cases and their contacts that travel between the U.S. and Mexico.
- To facilitate the exchange of information between health care providers from both countries.
- To provide guidance and education to patients and/or their contacts about their tuberculosis risk and need for diagnostic or treatment services.

Types of Referrals

- **Tuberculosis Cases and Suspects** - Patients with verified (confirmed) tuberculosis are referred to local health jurisdictions in the U.S. or Mexico for initiation or continuation of treatment and follow-up. Patients suspected of active tuberculosis are referred for additional evaluation and/or for initiation/continuation of treatment.
- **Notification of Contacts** - Contacts to verified (confirmed), infectious cases and to patients in whom there is high suspicion of infectiousness are notified to the local health jurisdictions where they reside in the U.S. or Mexico.
- **Source Case Finding** – Young children or immunocompromised patients who are verified (confirmed) cases in the U.S. for whom it is suspected (Someone has told you about a specific person or persons who is/are sick with TB.) that the source case is in Mexico.
- **Past History Requests** - Requests for patients' past medical histories pertaining to tuberculosis are submitted to the local health jurisdictions where they resided in the US or Mexico.

Instructions:

- For patients (Tuberculosis Cases and Suspects) relocating or traveling for > 30 days to Mexico, complete the [Binational Notification Form](#)  (PDF)
- For contacts (1. Moving to Mexico and have been exposed to an infectious pulmonary case in the U.S. and are under 5 years of age or immunocompromised, 2. A smear positive pulmonary case in the U.S. was living in Mexico during their infectious period.), complete the [Binational Notification Form](#)  (PDF) and [the Cure TB Contact Information Form](#)  (PDF)
- Notifications should not be sent unless locating information is available: at least a street address, or phone number or emergency contact information.
- ***To expedite transfer of information of TB suspects and cases, the District Public Health Nurse (DPHN) will call (800)789-1751 or (619) 542-4013 and FAX (619) 692-8020 (Per DPH CHS Policy No. 450) the completed Binational Notification Form or Cure TB Contact Information Form to Cure TB Binational TB Referral Program***
- The DPHN/designee provides the original form to the Tuberculosis Control Program Health Center Assistant Program Specialist, PHN (TBCP H.C. APS, PHN) and places the copy and FAX coversheet in the miscellaneous section of the patient's chart.
- TBCP H.C. APS will forward the original form to TBCP headquarters and an assigned staff will mail the form to the [Cure TB: Binational TB Referral Program](#).