



**Indiana**  
**Department**  
**of**  
**Health**

# TB PREVENTION AND CARE UPDATES

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**DIRECTOR**

**TB PREVENTION AND CARE**

3/20/2024

## OUR MISSION:

To promote, protect, and improve the health and safety of all Hoosiers.

## OUR VISION:

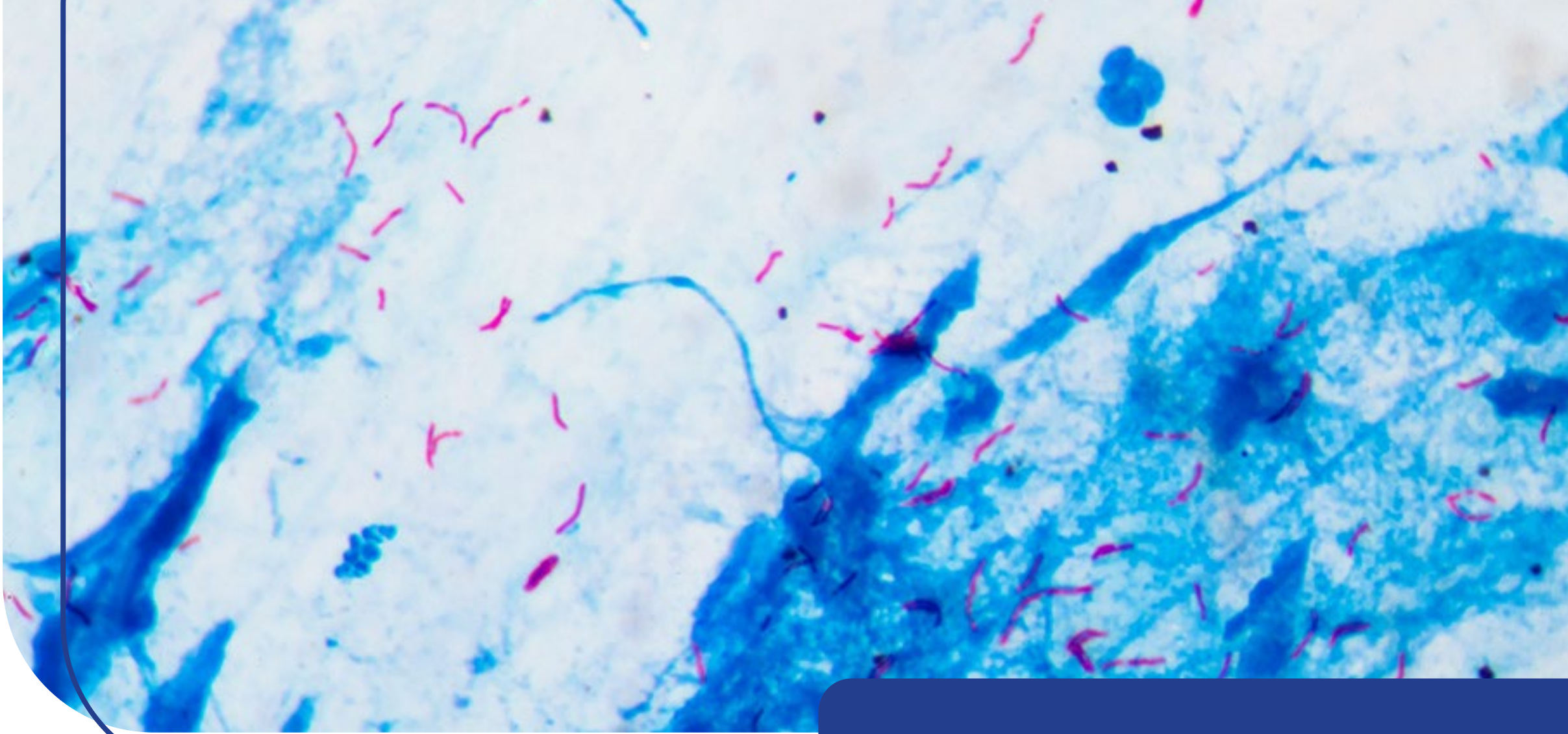
Every Hoosier reaches optimal health regardless of where they live, learn, work, or play.



# Outline

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- Program updates
- Drug shortages and updates
- Health First Indiana
- Education and training updates
- Upcoming events



# Program updates



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# Staffing updates

- Several changes in the past few months
- Hiring a TB health educator



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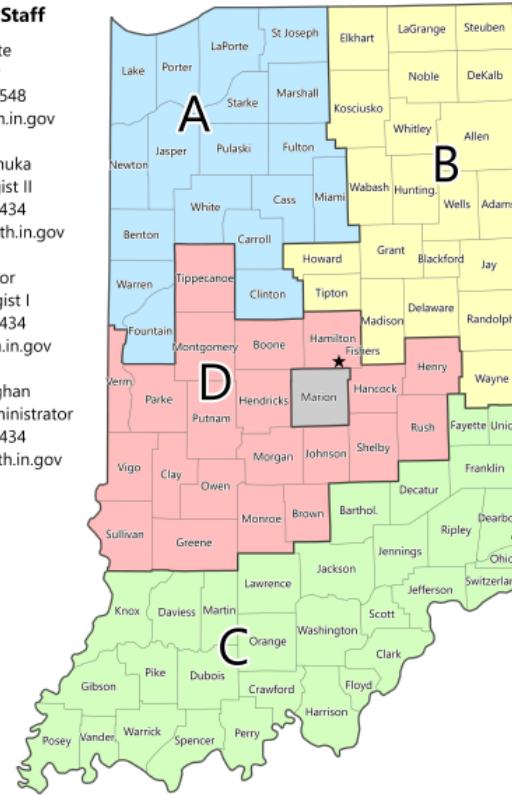
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Updated: 3/01/2024



# Isolation guidelines updates

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- *Guidelines for Respiratory Isolation and Restrictions to Reduce Transmission of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Community Settings* document is pending publication
  - Document created by NTCA, will be comprehensive
  - Major changes to community isolation recommendations
- Focus on custom, shorter duration isolation without (total) reliance on sputum smear results

# Isolation guidelines updates

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- IDOH will update TB control measure to align state code with new guidelines
  - Anticipated release summer 2024
- Continue to use current isolation guidelines for your infectious TB patients
  - Consult with your TB RNC on a case-by-case basis
- No anticipated changes to isolation in hospital or congregate settings

# TB technical instructions for panel physicians

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- Updated panel physician TB technical instructions were released in January, with changes to be implemented by Oct. 1.
- Major changes include:
  - Must perform an **interferon-gamma release assay (IGRA)** on all applicants 2 years of age and older in countries with a TB incidence rate of  $\geq 20$  cases per 100,000 population
    - Applicants 15 years and older in these countries will continue to receive a chest x-ray regardless of IGRA results
    - Panel physicians will now be allowed to use WHO-approved IGRA tests in addition to US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved tests
  - Must perform a molecular test in addition to sputum smears and culture
    - The molecular test must be a nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) and must be performed on the first respiratory specimen from all applicants requiring sputum collection for initial diagnosis



# TB technical instructions for civil surgeons

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- Updated civil surgeon TB technical instructions were released and effective March 11
- After a final tuberculosis classification has been made and the I-693 form has been completed, civil surgeons are now required to enter applicants with the following tuberculosis classifications into eMedical: Class B0 Pulmonary TB, B1 Pulmonary or Extrapulmonary, and B2 Latent TB Infection.
  - Records must be entered no later than five business days after they complete and sign the I-693 form
  - eMedical entries do not replace any portion of the I-693
  - Does not replace state-required reporting of LTBI to public health

# TB technical instructions for civil surgeons

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- IDOH will receive notifications about these applicants in Electronic Disease Notification System (EDN) data are entered into eMedical
  - Per CDC, public health is not required to follow-up with these individuals like a traditional arrival with a class B designation from a panel physician
- IDOH will be reviewing these reports to assess for correct LTBI reporting from the panel physicians
  - If the panel physician did not report the LTBI diagnosis to the LHD/IDOH, a reminder letter will be sent
- If your LHD would like a copy of these notifications, please let your TB RNC know

# TB annual report

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- Looking to update the format and content of our TB annual report
  - Includes prior year's statewide data and metrics surrounding treatment and laboratory testing
  - Prior year's reports are available on our [website](#)
- If you have input on what would be useful to your role/facility, please reach out to Scovia Kiwanuka, TB Epi II, at [Skiwanuka@health.in.gov](mailto:Skiwanuka@health.in.gov)

# Courier system: Coming soon!

The Indiana Department of Health – Laboratory is excited to announce the launch of a new statewide courier system for select laboratory specimens!

**Projected launch date:** mid-April to mid-May

## How is it set up?

There will be a total of 124 pick-up sites throughout the state. An IDOH representative will be reaching out to these sites soon to discuss next steps.

**Stay on the lookout - more information will be released soon!**



# IDOH Laboratory

Four ways to stay in the know:

1. Email us at [IDOH-Lab-Info@health.in.gov](mailto:IDOH-Lab-Info@health.in.gov)
2. Sign up for IHAN – Indiana Health Alert Network  
<https://ihan-in.org/>
3. Sign up for laboratory communications using the QR code:
4. Update your laboratory's contact information through the Indiana Laboratory System page on our website:  
<https://www.in.gov/health/laboratories/indiana-laboratory-system/>





# Drug shortages and updates



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# Drug shortages and LTBI medication availability

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- Current access to all TB drugs have stabilized
  - All LTBI regimens are available from Purdue Pharmacy
- IDOH and Purdue Pharmacy will continue to monitor the situation
- Please visit our [website](#) for current LTBI treatment regimen availability from Purdue Pharmacy
  - Updated weekly
  - Electronic version of the [IDOH LTBI Screening & Treatment Card](#) is available at this location as well

# Compounded medication

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- Purdue Pharmacy is no longer able to do any compounding for TB medication
- All compounded medication will need to be obtained through compounded pharmacies, usually local to the jurisdiction needing the medication
  - IDOH will work to set up state contracts as needed to obtain these medications as needs arise
- The contract process is long and requires payment in arrears
  - Please notify your TB RNC as soon as you think you may need compounded medication for your patient(s)
  - Appreciate the assistance in locating pharmacies to partner with





# Health First Indiana



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# Health First Indiana TB core services

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- LHDs should provide or ensure case management for those with suspected or confirmed TB disease, including investigation and specimen collection, enforcing isolation, providing directly observed therapy, and coordinating clinical and social needs
- LHDs should conduct investigations for those diagnosed with infectious TB disease, including contact identification, education, testing, and treatment (as needed)
- LHDs should coordinate clinical follow-up for those designated with a Class B immigration status and provide or ensure case management and directly observed therapy for TB if needed
- LHDs should work with IDOH to identify and treat latent TB infection (LTBI) according to the IDOH TB Elimination Plan
- LHDs should be aware of the socioeconomic, environmental, and behavioral factors that place individuals in their communities at risk, such as housing/crowding, sexual behaviors, and underrepresented/underserved individuals

# Health First Indiana core service tracker

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Comprehensive platform to track LHD activities related to core public health service delivery, including TB

- Number of people provided TB testing (IGRA or TST)
- Number of people provided treatment for latent TB infection (LTBI)
- Number of people provided treatment for TB disease
- Number of people provided directly observed therapy (DOT) services
- Number of people supported with food/housing assistance
- Number of people educated on TB
- Number of people with a class B TB designation served
- Number of referrals to wraparound services



# Education and training updates



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# TB disease treatment and management card

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- Updated treatment and management of TB disease card available now!
- Updates include:
  - Increasing the size of the card
  - Revamping the layout
  - Addition of the newer four-month treatment option for drug-susceptible TB that CDC provided [interim recommendations](#) for called the Rifapentine-Moxifloxacin regimen\*
- Digital version available on our website [here](#)

# Phlebotomy training

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- The IDOH TB program has contracted with Health Care Education and Training ([HCET](#)) to conduct four one-day training sessions
- Maximum 15 participants per session; hope to accommodate at least four to five LHDs in each of these sessions
- Training locations: Allen, Lawrence, Marion, and St. Joseph counties
- Details for registration will be coming soon!

# Phlebotomy training

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- IDOH Division of Emergency Preparedness (DEP) is offering district/regional-based training via mobile units
- Program details:
  - This class does not provide certification
  - Training availability is limited and will be approved on a first come, first served basis
  - Training classes have a maximum capacity of 20 participants
  - The requesting facility will be responsible for providing the training location and blood collection supplies to use for hands-on practice
  - If a facility chooses to include non-nursing staff in the training, the facility should provide a trained nurse or phlebotomist on-site to oversee future procedures performed by said staff (preceptor program)
  - The training presentation will not be distributed online and is only available during the in-person training
- LHDs can submit a request for training through a [request link on the IDOH DEP website](#)

# 2024 TB program webinars

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- IDOH TB Prevention and Care Program is planning a series of webinars for 2024
- Planned topics include:
  - Class B follow-up process and form completion
  - TB isolation guidelines and implementation
  - Completing a TB investigation in NBS
- Please reach out to the TB program with any ideas or suggestions
  - [Tbprogram@health.in.gov](mailto:Tbprogram@health.in.gov)





# Upcoming events



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# TB Intensive in Evansville

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## TB Intensive – Evansville

Jointly sponsored by:

Global TB Institute at Rutgers (GTBI) and  
the National Tuberculosis Coalition of America (NTCA)

May 29-31

First day – LTBI

Three days – LTBI and TB Disease

# National TB Conference

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## National TB Conference

Jointly sponsored by:

National Tuberculosis Coalition of America (NTCA) and  
The Union

April 16-19  
Baltimore, Maryland

<https://tbconference.cventevents.com/event/3f853232-d212-48df-8278-79fac4fee98a/summary?locale=en>

# Indiana Public Health Nurses Conference

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## 2024 PHN Conference

June 26-27

Carmel

# World TB Day Summit Evaluation

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**Please take the evaluation for today's event!**



# Contact Information

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TB Prevention & Care

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