

TB Suspect Request for Hospital Discharge/ Transfer Approval Form

Tel: 805-385-9451 Fax: 805-385-9445 Weekend and after hours: 805-214-7057

Patient Name: MRN: Address: Alternate phone: Alternate phone: MRN: Address				S	- Submitted by: - Phone: - Fax:			
DISCHAR								
Date of Admi To be Dischar Address: At Discharge	ssion: rged/Transfern address are th	red to: H	Iome □She	ears Elderly	Immunocompi	comised	None	
MD who has How many da	ow-up appoint agreed to assu lys of TB med	ment date:_ me care: ications wil	l patient hav	Are f	Tel# (scharge/release?	B Treatment?	Yes No	
PHYSICIAN'S DIAGNOSIS Active TB TB Suspect Pulmonary Extra pulmonary (site) Symptoms: Fatigue Cough (duration Dight sweats Hemoptysis Other If asymptomatic, reason for evaluation								
Date obtained	Source		Culture M.TB	GeneXpert		Other Tests	,	
					PPD Date:	Results:	mm	
					IGRA Result Date	Positive	☐ Negative	
					Chest X-ray (Attach Rep	ort) Cavitary Infiltrate	UNK Negative	
PCR: Pos MTB Neg Pend Not Done Sensitive to all drugs: Yes No Please Specify:					Risk Factors: Immunocompromised?			
TB TREAT	TMENT							
Medications	Do	sage	D	ate Started	Date Stopped	Reason for D/C		
INH Rifampin				/ /	/ /			
Ethambutol				/ /	/ /			
Pyrazinamide				/ /	/ /			
,				/ /	/ /			
Tuberculosis Control Program use only: Problems/Action:								
				Discharge Approved YES NO Date:/				

Legal Aspects of TB Reporting

entura County stories of lost or unrecognized TB cases abound. Two cases in the first three months of 1996 had been classically symptomatic for close to a year. Both had been to physicians repeatedly for non-resolving cough. One had an unrelated surgery, under general anesthesia, just weeks before she became a TB suspect. Both were abundantly smear positive for AFB on voluntary sputum collections.

Another case, in 1994, was diagnosed as a TB suspect, placed on medication and promptly lost to follow-up. The physician did not report. Many months later, gravely ill, with hemoptysis, a cavitary chest X-ray, and 4+ AFB on sputum smear, the patient was admitted to a local hospital. He hadn't been able to afford the anti-TB medications nor the office visits.

These are the kinds of stories that motivated revisions of the Health and Safety Code (H&S) and the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 17.

Who reports and when

H&S Code, Section 121362 now says in part that health care providers, health facilities, and clinics (providing outpatient treatment for TB disease) shall promptly report to the Local Health Officer (LHO) when:

- 1. There are reasonable grounds to believe a person has TB.
- 2. A TB patient ceases TB treatment, including when the patient:
 - a. Fails to keep an appointment.
 - b. Relocates without transferring care.
 - c. Discontinues care.

Continuity of care

H&S Code Section 121361 describes the framework for the discharge/transfer plan, to be approved by the LHO before a TB case/suspect may be released from a health care facility.

Health Facilities

- A. Before discharge or release
 - 1. Notification and written treatment plan received by LHO
 - 2. LHO must review within 24 hours receipt of the plan during business week
 - 3. LHO approves written treatment plan
- B. Before transfer to another health facility
 - 1. Notification and written treatment plan received by LHO
 - 2. LHO must review within 24 hours of receipt of plan during business week
 - 3. LHO approves written plan treatment plan

- C. Before transfer to a general acute hospital when there is an immediate need for a higher level of care
 - 1. Notification & written treatment plan received by LHO.
 - 2. (No approval required prior to transfer to higher level of care).
- D. Before transfer to a correctional institution (state or local detention facility)
 - 1. Notification & written treatment plan received by LHO unless this poses a threat to community or TB patient.
 - 2. (Receiving facility will approve transfer.)

CCR Title 17, Section 2500 has changed TB to **24 hours** reporting status (within one working day). Section 2505 (On laboratories) now says in part; any result suggestive of TB (such as smear positivity) shall be reported to the County Health Officer in writing within 24 hours; when culture positive laboratory is to submit a culture from the primary isolate to the (Ventura County) Public Health Laboratory; if there are no susceptibility results on a strain obtained from the same patient within the previous 3 months the laboratory shall perform or refer for susceptibility testing.

Susceptibility results are to be reported to the County Health Officer within 24 hours; if there is resistance to at least INH and rifampin, one culture or subculture is to be submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

Ventura County TB control has developed a FAXable form to facilitate TB reporting and to expedite the approval of the discharge plan. *Please copy this form* (see reverse) as needed or call our offices for a master copy at (805) 385-9451

Working together we can identify TB suspects early, foster adherence to the treatment regimen, prevent acquired drug resistance, shorten the period of communicability and reduce TB transmission in Ventura County.