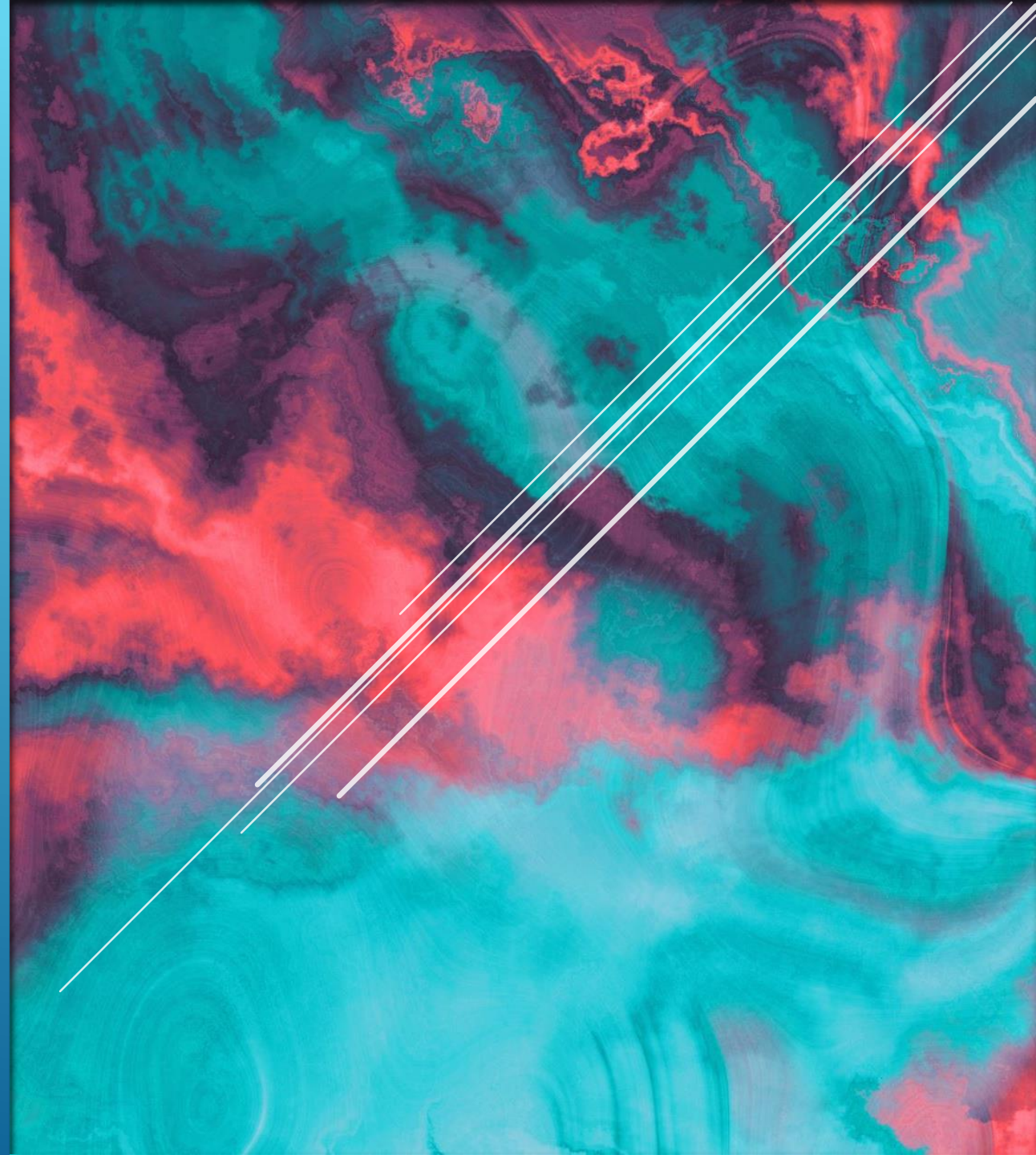
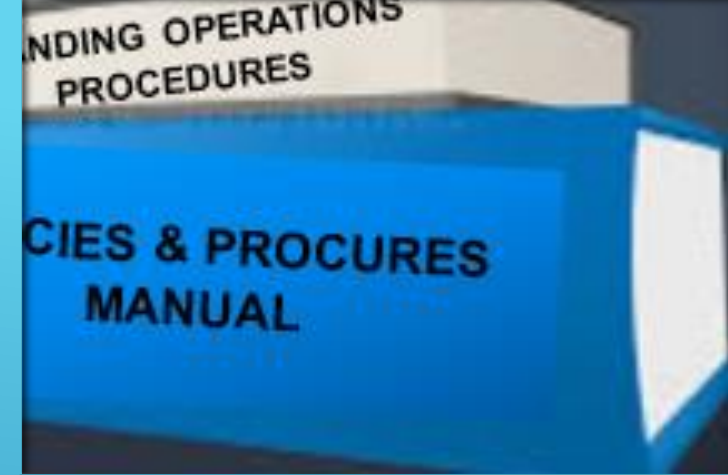


TUBERCULOSIS SCREENING/TESTING REFUSAL



RIGHT TO REFUSE

- Incarcerated individuals have a right to refuse
 - Health evaluations
 - Diagnostic testing
 - Health treatment.
- Limitations:
 - Cannot force an individual to have a test against his or her will (at least not without a court order).
 - If person's refusal has possible public health consequences, situation treated differently (according to facility's policy and state law.
 - Advise person of the policy of refusing a screening test for a communicable disease (when provided specific consequences many decide to comply)



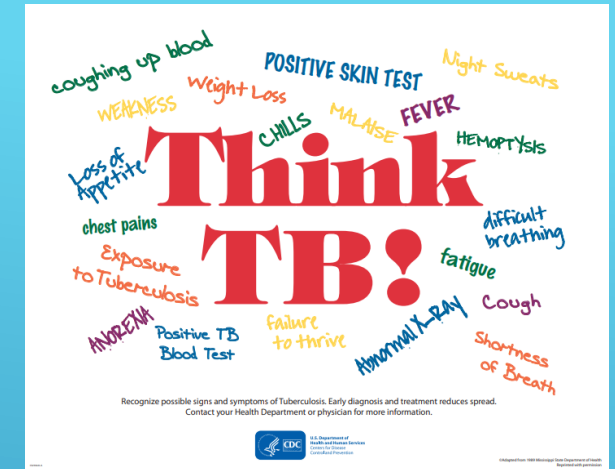
REASONS EXPRESSED BY PATIENTS

- I am scared of needles
- I don't know what you are trying to inject me with
- I don't believe in this testing
- It is against my religion
- Why must I do it?
- I am always negative
- I have had a positive test in the past



IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

- Not everyone is receptive
- May need additional staff or peer they trust to explain
- Alternatives (IGRAs or Chest x-ray) per policy
- Explain steps if refuses (according to facility's standing operating procedure)
- Quarantine, isolation, monitoring
- Jail vs Prison
- Educational materials in multiple languages (Tuberculosis Centers)



IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 247: Saving Lives. Protecting People.™

TB 101 for Health Care Workers

Lesson 2: TB Transmission and the Development of TB Disease

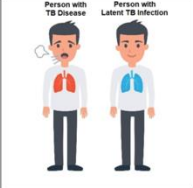
Differences Between Latent TB Infection and TB Disease

Persons with Latent TB Infection (LTBI):

- Do not feel sick
- Do not have any symptoms
- Cannot spread TB bacteria to others
- Can have latent TB infection for years
- Are at risk for developing TB disease
- Have a small amount of TB germs in their body that are alive but inactive
- Usually have a positive TB blood test (interferon-gamma release assay [IGRA]) or TB skin test (Mantoux tuberculin skin test [TST]) result indicating TB infection
- Should consider treatment for LTBI to prevent TB disease

Persons with TB Disease:

- Usually feel sick
- Usually have one or more symptoms
- May be able to spread TB bacteria to others
- Have a large amount of active TB germs in their body
- Usually have a positive TB skin test or TB blood test result indicating TB infection
- Need treatment for TB disease




Persons with latent TB infection do not feel sick and cannot spread TB bacteria to others. Persons with TB disease usually feel sick and may be able to spread TB bacteria to others.

STOP TB

Tuberculosis (TB) spreads through the air from one person to another.

- TB germs spread when a person with infectious TB disease coughs, sneezes, or talks
- TB germs usually attack the lungs but can also move to any part of the body




TB germs can live in the body without making you sick. This is called latent TB infection or inactive TB.

- TB germs can live in the body for many years without making you sick
- If you have latent TB, you can take TB medicine to prevent the development of active TB disease before you develop TB

If your body cannot stop TB germs from growing, you develop active TB disease.

- You may feel sick and spread TB germs to your family, friends, and others around you
- You need to take and finish all your TB medicine to help you feel better and prevent other people from getting sick



Symptoms of active TB disease:

- Cough
- Weight loss
- Fevers
- Night sweats
- Loss of appetite
- Unexplained fatigue
- Chest pain
- Spitting up blood

Take and finish all of your TB medicine to kill TB germs and STOP TB!

Publication Number 2473

Latent TB Infection

I am healthy.

The TB germs are "sleeping" in my body, but could "wake up" in the future.

I have no symptoms.

My chest x-ray is normal.

I am not contagious.

I have a positive result on a TB skin test or blood test.

Active TB Disease

I have a serious illness that could kill me if left untreated.

The TB germs have "woken up".

I may have symptoms – cough, fever, weight loss, night sweats.

My chest x-ray may be abnormal.

I may be contagious and could infect other people when TB germs are spread through the air when I cough, laugh or speak.

I may have a positive result on tests of my sputum.

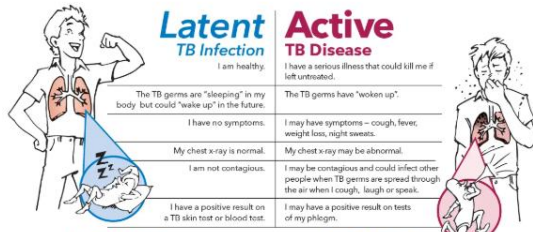
Can my Latent TB Infection (sleeping germs) wake up and make me sick with Active TB Disease?

Yes, and certain factors increase my risk!

- I traveled recently from another country where TB is common.
- I have HIV.
- I was in close contact with someone with active TB disease.
- I have diabetes, kidney failure, or cancer.
- I had surgery to remove part of my stomach.
- I live or work in a hospital, jail, drug rehab center or shelter.
- I use injection drugs.
- I have received an organ transplant.
- I take certain medications that affect my immune system, like prednisone (steroids) or other pills or injections to treat certain types of skin, joint and glandular conditions.

Yes, I can prevent tuberculosis!

I can take safe, effective medicines.



Published 2012

MCCB **Bellevue** **NYU School of Medicine** **UF** **University of Florida** **Southwestern Medical Center**

Infección de tuberculosis Latente

Estoy sano.

Los gérmenes de la tuberculosis están dormidos en mi cuerpo, pero podrían despertar en el futuro.

No tengo síntomas.

Mi radiografía de pecho es normal.

No soy contagioso.

Tengo un resultado positivo en la prueba de tuberculosis en la piel o en sangre.

Enfermedad de tuberculosis Activa

Tengo una enfermedad grave que puede matarme si no la trato.

Los gérmenes de la tuberculosis han despertado.

Puedo tener síntomas – tos, fiebre, pérdida de peso, sudores nocturnos.

Mi radiografía de pecho es anormal.

Puedo ser contagioso y puedo infectar otras personas cuando los gérmenes de tuberculosis se dispersan por el aire cuando toso, me río, o hablo.

Puedo tener un resultado positivo en la prueba de mi fien.

¿Puede mi infección de tuberculosis latente (gérmenes dormidos) despertar y enfermarme con la tuberculosis activa?

Si, y ciertos factores aumentan el riesgo!

- Viajé recientemente de otro país donde la tuberculosis es común.
- Tengo VIH.
- He estado recientemente en contacto cercano con alguien que tiene la enfermedad de tuberculosis activa.
- Tengo diabetes, insuficiencia renal, o cáncer.
- Tuve cirugía para quitar una parte de mi estómago.
- Tengo o tuve en mi hospital, cárcel, centro de rehabilitación de drogas, o albergue para inmigrantes.
- Uso drogas inyectables ilegales.
- Hice un trasplante de órganos.
- Uso ciertos medicamentos que afectan mi sistema inmune, como prednisona (esteroides), u otros medicamentos para tratar ciertas condiciones en la piel, articulaciones o glándulas.

¡Sí, puedo prevenir la tuberculosis!

Puedo tomar medicamentos seguros y efectivos.



Published 2012

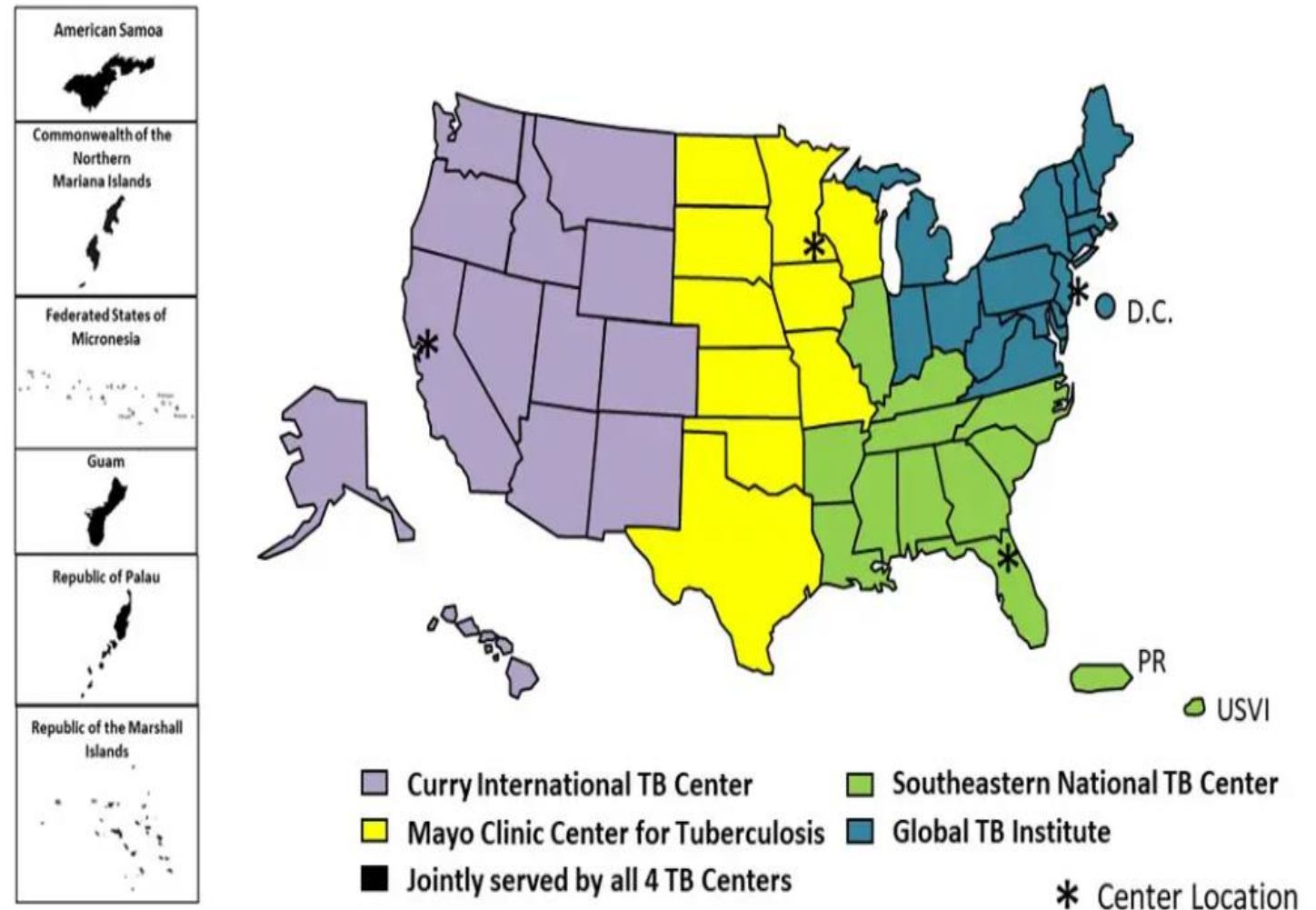
MCCB **Bellevue** **NYU School of Medicine** **UF** **University of Florida** **Southwestern Medical Center**

Patient information available in many Languages

US TUBERCULOSIS CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE FOR TRAINING, EDUCATION, AND MEDICAL CONSULTATION

The four TB COEs are:

- Curry International Tuberculosis Center
- Global Tuberculosis Institute at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
- Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis (MCCT)
- Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center



EDUCATION

- What is Tuberculosis (handout or CDC poster/brochure may be helpful) – usually must be approved by security
- Infection treatable, disease more serious
- Advancement of disease to lung damage and possible death
- Risk to family and others
- Current rise in infections nation wide
- What the test is (TST or IGRA)
- Steps for follow up
- If refusal – remind of steps according to SOP policy



Additional Languages:

- Chinese
- Ilocano
- Marshallese
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Vietnamese

TB SCREENING OR TESTING REFUSAL POLICIES

Refusal policies may include the following with documentation

- Education
- Reconsideration by patient
- Evaluation by clinical provider to determine housing
 - Symptomatic / asymptomatic
 - Restrictive / quarantine housing
- Continue monitoring
- Court order for testing
- Policy for use of force for testing



REFUSALS POLICY EXAMPLE 1

Follow facility standing operating procedures (SOPs) and policy for refusal

- Any person who refuses to be screened/tested for tuberculosis will be provided the following education and opportunities to accept the screening/testing:
 - Clinical staff will provide a verbal explanation of the importance of the testing
 - Clinical staff will allow an opportunity for the patient to decide to change the refusal status and will document the following in the patient's medical record and on the "Patient Health Education Form"
 - Type of education provided;
 - Reason it was provided
 - Patient's response

REFUSALS POLICY EXAMPLE 1

- If patient continues to refuse tuberculosis screening/testing, care of the inmate will be based on whether they are symptomatic or asymptomatic.
 - Asymptomatic, the nurse will document in patient record
 - Patient was provided tuberculosis education
 - Has denied any current tuberculosis symptoms and appears to be asymptomatic
 - instructed on the need to return to the medical department if they develop any of the symptoms discussed.
 - Patient will then be scheduled for their next annual tuberculosis screening for the following year
- Symptomatic:
 - AIIR Isolation / quarantine (segregated from general population)

REFUSALS POLICY EXAMPLE 2

Complete documentation of refusal of treatment/no show form and notify the responsible physician

- Regional medical director and regional infection control nurse notified immediately if any person suspected or confirmed cases of active TB disease
 - Counseling regarding the testing and treatment.
 - Patient allowed to reconsider their choice of refusing testing
 - Made aware of the consequences of continued refusal including the use of force
- Counseling by medical staff members regarding the importance of TB screening testing prior to signing the refusal of treatment/no show form
 - Documentation of the counseling will be entered into the department computer system
 - Upon receipt of the signed refusal the physician, HSA or director of nursing, and infection control nurse, and regional medical director must be notified for further consideration

REFUSALS POLICY EXAMPLE 2

- Offenders will be given the Mantoux Skin Test without the right of refusal to comply with testing requirements
 - The HSA or director of nursing should contact the appropriate custody staff member to assist with required PPD testing
 - All PPD testing requiring the use of force shall be documented and reported on the infection control monthly report as a forced PPD in accordance with institutional services procedures regarding use of force guidelines and reporting
 - TB testing requiring the use of force should be implanted on the scapula to decrease the possibility of altering or manipulation of the TST site
 - All tests shall be read and documented per protocol in accordance with this procedure

SUMMARY

- ▶ Refusal for TB Screening and Testing is not uncommon
- ▶ Important to remember
 - ▶ Jail vs Prison
 - ▶ Education
 - ▶ Documentation
 - ▶ Know your policies and procedures
 - ▶ Know your Standing Operating Procedures
 - ▶ Know your state laws

The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of overlapping organic shapes in various colors including yellow, orange, red, purple, blue, green, and brown. Several large, stylized question marks are integrated into the design, some appearing as solid colors and others as outlines. The overall effect is one of dynamic energy and intellectual curiosity.

QUESTIONS

RESOURCES

- CDC: *Tuberculosis*; <https://www.cdc.gov/tb/index.html>
- American Lung Association: *Tuberculosis*; <https://www.lung.org/lung-health-diseases/lung-disease-lookup/tuberculosis>
- National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC); *CorrectCare* Vol. 17, Issue 2, 2003, updated February 2010; *Right to Refuse Treatment*; <https://www.ncchc.org/q-a/right-to-refuse-treatment/#:~:text=Inmates%20have%20a%20right%20to%20refuse%20health%20evaluations%20and%20diagnostic,physical%20on%20an%20ongoing%20basis.>
- CDC *Tuberculosis Centers of Excellence*; <https://www.cdc.gov/tb-programs/php/about/tb-coe.html>
- SNTC: <https://sntc.medicine.ufl.edu/home/index#/>
- UpToDate: *Tuberculosis infection (latent tuberculosis) in adults: Approach to diagnosis (screening)*; updated 10/25/24, reviewed 2/2025