

CLASS B TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATION



B Notification Background

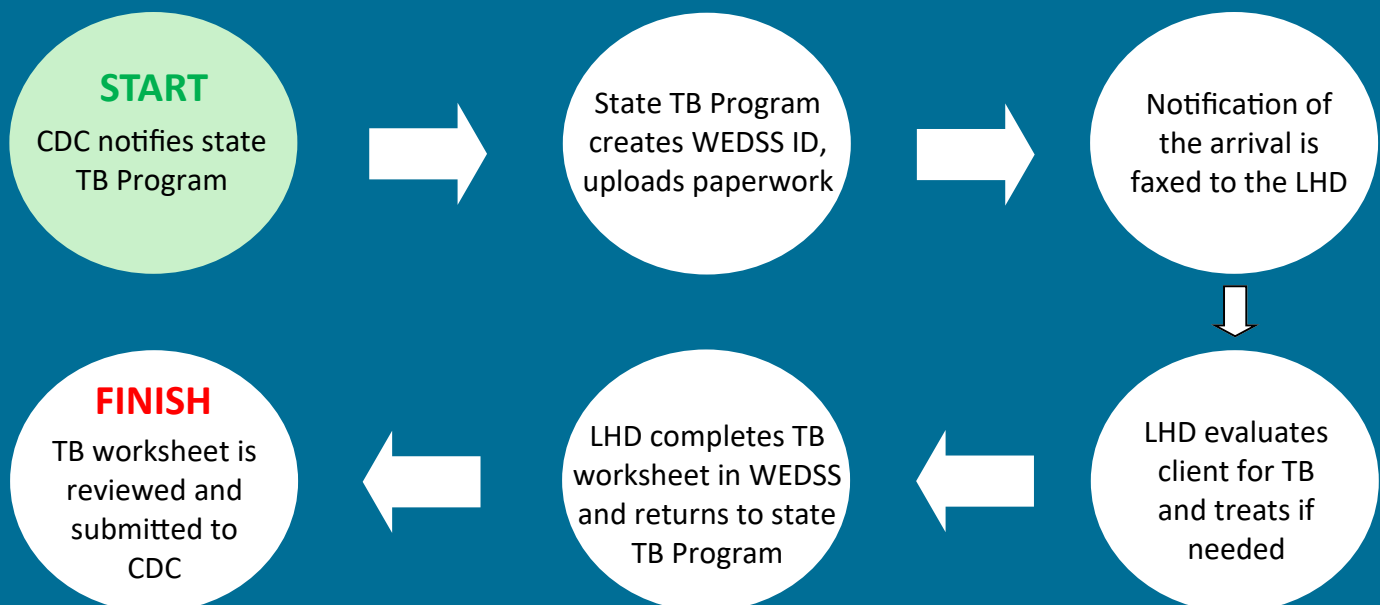


- ◆ Refugees and immigrants are screened for Tuberculosis (TB) disease prior to coming to the United States (U.S.). If a risk for TB infection is identified, the individual is given a TB Class B status.
- ◆ Screening overseas is done by panel physicians working under an agreement with the local U.S. embassy or consulate.
- ◆ For those over age 14, overseas screening involves a chest x-ray (CXR). If the CXR is abnormal, sputa are collected for smear and culture.
- ◆ For those under age 14, overseas screening involves an interferon gamma release assay (IGRA). If the IGRA is positive, a CXR is performed to rule out TB disease.

What are class B notifications?

Class B notifications are medical documents that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sends to the state public health department after a refugee or immigrant arrives in the U.S. Their purpose is to alert the local health department (LHD) to complete TB related follow-up. There are four B classifications: B0, B1, B2, and B3. **B0** individuals have completed TB treatment through directly observed therapy (DOT) with a panel physician overseas. **B1** individuals may have clinically active pulmonary or extra-pulmonary TB or are HIV positive, are not infectious, and should be evaluated for TB disease or TB infection. **B2** individuals do not have clinically active TB and should be evaluated for TB infection. **B3** individuals are close contacts to a person with TB disease and should be evaluated for TB disease or TB infection.

TB Status Notification and Evaluation



IMPORTANCE OF FOLLOW-UP



- ▶ The focus of overseas screening is to find individuals with infectious TB disease and treat them before travel.
- ▶ U.S. screening focuses on identifying:
 - ▶ Any active TB disease not treated overseas.
 - ▶ Latent TB infection (LTBI) to prevent future activation.
- ▶ In the last 10 years, 69% of people with TB Disease in Wisconsin were non-US born.
- ▶ It is in the client's best interest to undergo follow-up in the U.S., rule out TB disease, and complete treatment, if needed.

FOLLOW-UP TIMELINE AFTER IMMIGRANT OR REFUGEE ARRIVAL

WITHIN 30 DAYS

INITIATE MEDICAL
FOLLOW-UP

WITHIN 90 DAYS

COMPLETE
EVALUATION

WITHIN NINE MONTHS

COMPLETE
APPROPRIATE
TREATMENT

WISCONSIN STATE TB PROGRAM CONTACTS

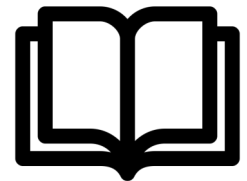


Wisconsin TB Program Main Line, (608) 261-6319

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References:

- ▶ Wisconsin Department of Health Services. (2022). *Tuberculosis (TB) follow-up recommendations for arrivals with a TB class condition (DHS Publication P-00619)*. Madison, WI
- ▶ <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/tb/index.htm>



BUREAU OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph/bcd.htm | dhsdphbcd@dhs.wi.gov

Wisconsin Department of Health Services | Division of Public Health