



State of Connecticut

Department of Public Health

TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAM

TO: Directors of Health
Public Health Nurses
Visiting Nurses

FROM: Patricia Christensen
Health Program Associate

SUBJECT: **Tuberculosis (TB) Source/Associate Investigation Request Per Attached Form (TB-5 source)**

The Tuberculosis Program has changed the age limit for the source case investigations. We request source case investigations be conducted for those children under 6 years of age with latent TB infection (LTBI).

The TB Control Program at the Connecticut Department of Public Health recommends that a source/associate investigation be completed for persons younger than 6 years of age with LTBI. The goal is to identify any individuals in the child's environment who may have undiagnosed TB infection or disease. The investigation includes educating the patient and family about their infection or disease, identifying and screening contacts by risk and ensuring appropriate TB related follow-up care.

Young children are at a greater risk of progressing from LTBI to active TB disease. The risk of acquiring infection is related to various factors: infectiousness of the active case, health status of the contact, and specifics of the shared environment. If a source case is identified, the sensitivities of the source case specimen must be considered in the treatment of all contacts.

TB and HIV coinfection

HIV counseling and testing is recommended for all TB patients as part of their routine management. HIV testing should also be done for contacts/associates identified with LTBI. Given the complexity of concurrent administration of TB and antiretroviral therapy, immediate consultation with a physician who is an expert in the treatment of TB and HIV coinfection is recommended.

Thank you for your cooperation. Further questions should be directed to Patricia Christensen at the TB Control Program at (860) 509-7722.