



V E N T U R A C O U N T Y

P U B L I C H E A L T H

A Department of Ventura County Health Care Agency



VENTURA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH
A Department of Ventura County Health Care Agency

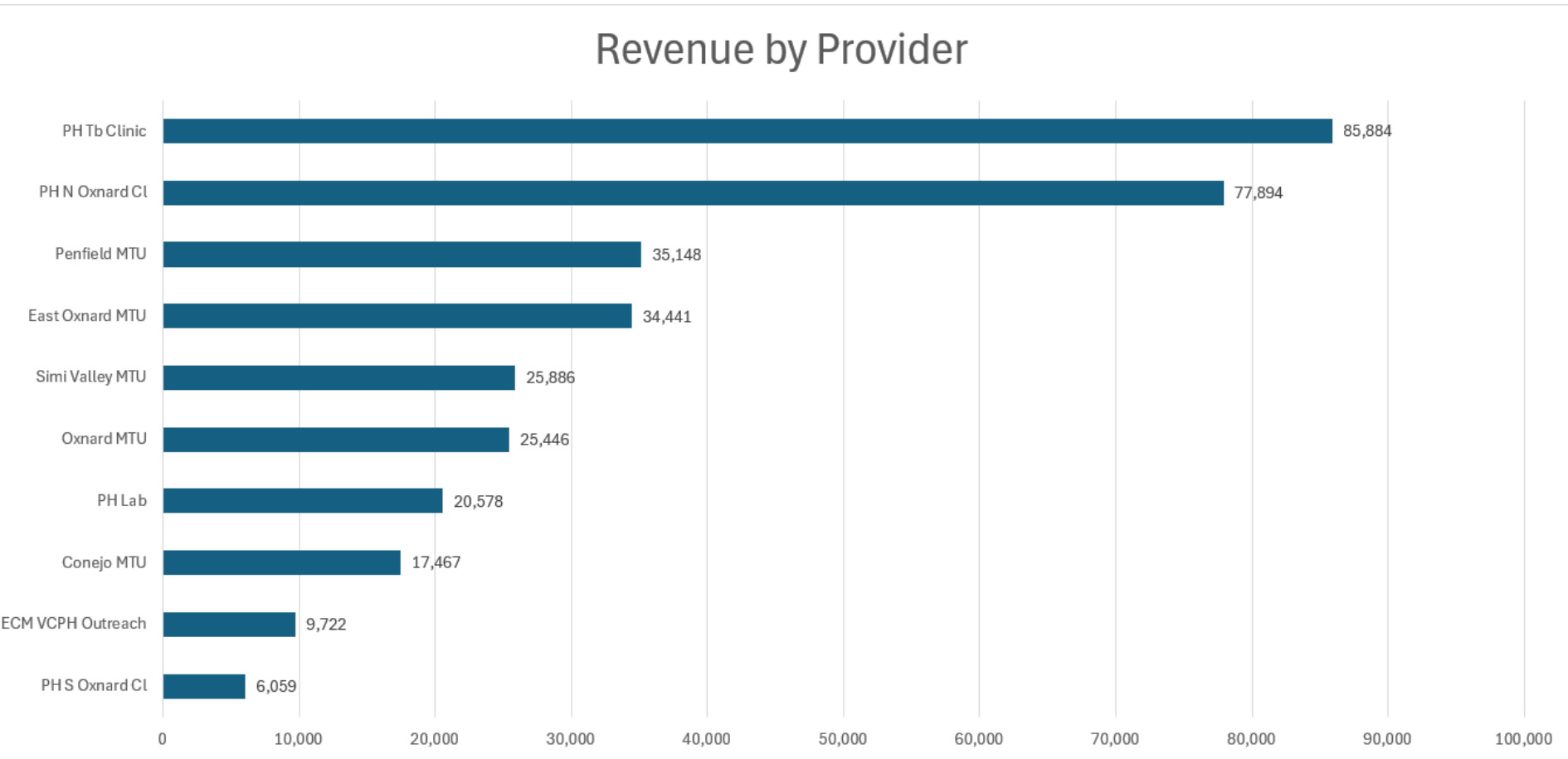
November 12, 2025

VCPH TB BILLING PROCESS

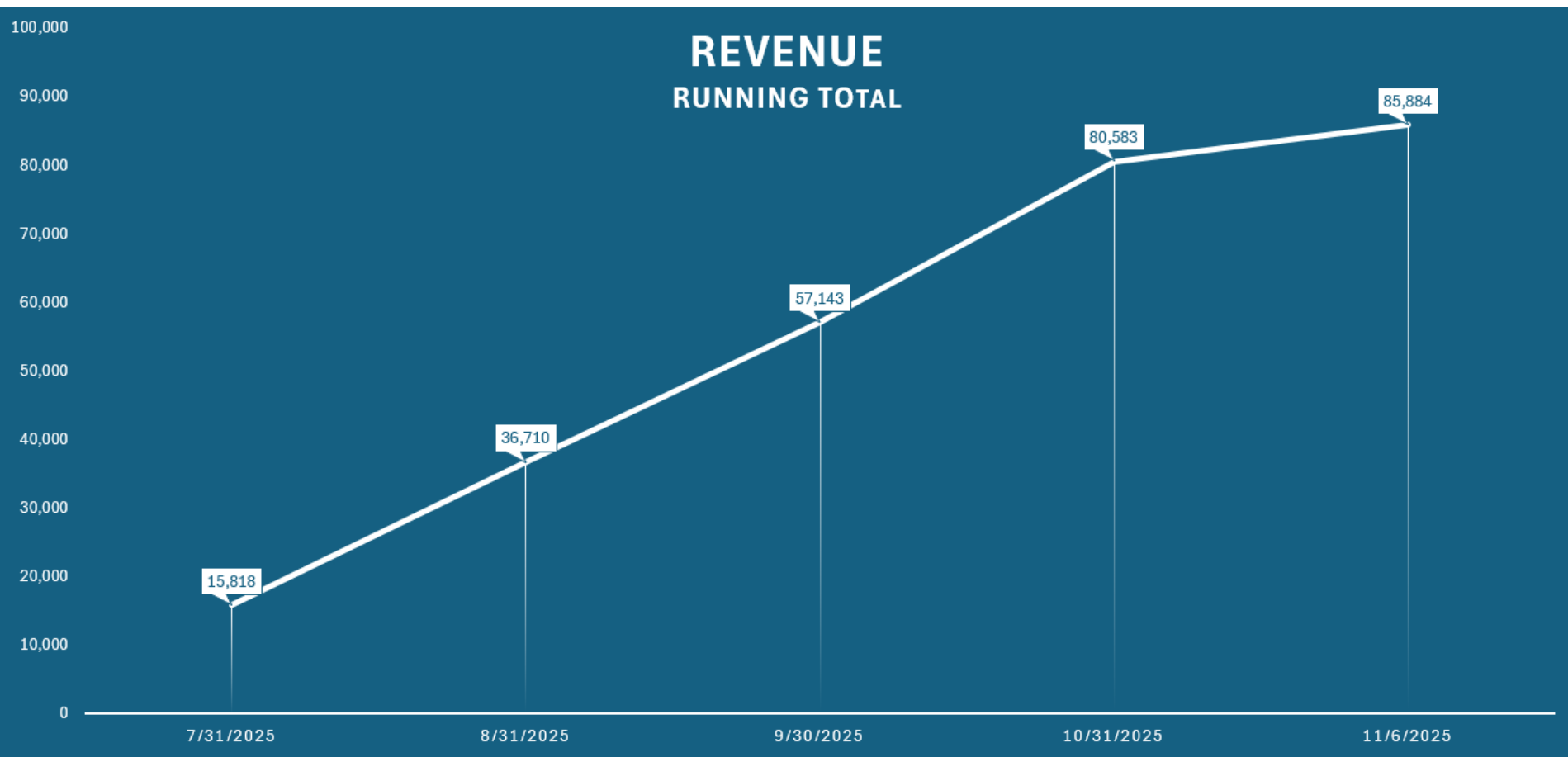
The Do's to Successful Billing

Sandra Calvario
Program Administrator

Public Health Billing Services



Public Health Specialty TB Clinic



Assisting Jurisdiction's

Coordination Summary

The TB Surveillance Team oversees case management, contact tracing, care coordination, and performs some billing functions such as DOT from the main administration building. The TB Clinic provides direct patient care and bills for clinical services through the FQHC system. Both teams collaborate closely through shared patient data, referrals, and ongoing treatment updates to ensure coordinated TB care.

TB Surveillance Team (Main Administration Building)

Located at the Department of Public Health Main Administration Building.

- TB Controller
- Case Managers
- Care Coordinators
- Disease Investigators
- Billing & Administrative Staff (some billing such as DOT)

TB Clinic (FQHC)

- Located at the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC).
- Clinic Providers
- Medical Assistants
- Nurses
- Front Office Staff

Current Jurisdiction Workflows

San Bernardino County TB Program Structure

TB Surveillance Team (Main Administration Building)

Located at the Department of Public Health Main Administration Building

- TB Controller
- Case Managers
- Care Coordinators
- Disease Investigators
- Billing & Administrative Staff (some billing such as DOT)

TB Clinic (FQHC)

Located at the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)

- Clinic Providers
- Medical Assistants
- Nurses
- Front Office Staff

The **TB Surveillance Team** oversees case management, contact tracing, care coordination, and performs some billing functions such as DOT from the main administration building. The **TB Clinic** provides direct patient care and bills for clinical services through the FQHC system. Both teams collaborate closely through shared patient data, referrals, and ongoing treatment updates to ensure coordinated TB care.

TB Classifications

TB disease is classified into 5 Stages:

- TB Class 0-1
 - Contact investigations
- TB Class 2
 - Latent Tuberculosis Infection
- TB Class 3
 - Active TB Disease
- TB Class 4
 - Old TB Diseases
- TB Class 5
 - TB Suspects

TB Class 5

Facts about suspects/ TB cases

- Before requesting authorizations study the patient with the nurse.
Check the following to make requesting easier.
 - 1. Who referred patient to our clinic?**
 - 2. Who's the primary care doctor?**
 - 3. What type of insurance do they have?**
- The more you know about the suspect the easier it will be to get auths.

*** MAKE SURE AUTH IS VALID FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS***
(Following 3 examples below are enough CPT codes for 6 months.)

TB Class 5

New Suspects/ B1 Immigrants

Dx: Z11.1

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>CPT</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
Est. PT MD visit	99213	3
Initial RN visit	99211	3
Airway Inhalation Treatment	94640	3
LAB/Collection and Handling (Office) (HMO insurances only)	99000	6
Transport of Specimen to Office/Lab-HMO, MCP, Kaiser	99001	6

TB Class 3

TB Cases ONLY

Refer to MD notes for DX

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>CPT</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
Est. PT MD visit	99213	10
Initial RN visit	99211	5
Direct Observed Therapy- <u>Home</u> (DOT)	99600 H0033(Medi-cal pts.)	120
Direct Observed Therapy- <u>Office</u> (DOT)	99199-HMO (i.e. SVIPA, Dignity IPA)	120
Collection and Handling (Office)	99000	6
Airway Inhalation Treatment	94640	3
Transport of Specimen to Office/Lab-HMO, MPC, Kaiser	99001	6

TB Class 2

- When a patient with an **HMO insurance** is coming for an LTBI eval, **only** request the initial consult CPT codes below:

Initial LTBI eval Dx: Z22.7		
NEW MD visit	99204	1
EST. MD visit	99213	2
LAB/Collection and Handling (Office)	99000	3
Transport of Specimen to Office/Lab- HMO, Clinicas, Kaiser	99001	3

- Once pt. is seen by our MD and decides to start LTBI ~~tx~~ then request to add more CPT codes depending on the regimen that pt. starts.

* MAKE SURE AUTH IS VALID FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS*

Billing Resources

Review of Training Resources

November 6, 2024, Curry International TB Center Training

From Red to Black: Transforming Public Health Finances and Programming Through Strategic Billing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPypiPJXMcU>

Calvario, Sandra, *TB Billing Process*, Curry International Tuberculosis Center

https://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/sites/default/files/2024-11/TB%20Billing%20Process_%20Sandra%20Calvario.pdf

Services provided

- Each location should identify services their program does
- Services that are billable
- Services can change in rate every fiscal year
- Program managers and clinical supervisors work together with their fiscal program to gather this information
- Each billable service has a perspective evaluation and management codes as well as procedure codes

Examples of CPT codes:

- 99211: Nurse Visit
- 36415: Venipuncture
- 99000: Collection and Handling
- 99212: MD visit

Resources cont.

Disease Plans

TB Suspects (Screening TB)

- Induce Sputa
- Draw labs
- Transportation of labs
- Voluntary Sputa
- Nurse visit
- MD visit

Each patient is different and some need more than others, having a general sense of the plan can help with requesting the correct services from payor sources.

TB Cases (Active Disease)

- MD Visits
- Nurse Visits
- DOT visit
- Smear & culture conversions
- Draw labs
- Transportation of labs

TB cases are seen for a long period of time. Their plans must be broken up into the months of services being provided.

LTBI

- MD Visits
- Nurse visits
- Draw labs
- DOPT

Treatment plans help identify what CPT codes need to be requested for each diseases group

Establishing Relationships with Local Primary Care Clinics and Specialty Providers (slide)

Requesting Authorizations, Step by Step:

1. Create disease plan for patient by diagnosis
2. Verify insurance and eligibility
3. Call primary clinic office or referral center, to establish a relationship to request authorizations
4. Maintain all requests and authorizations in a binder or tickler system to keep track of upcoming expiration dates
5. Schedule weekly review of binder to make sure you have all requests in on time
6. If you have an E.H.R (Electronic Health Record) upload authorizations, request for authorizations and letters of agreements for the billing departments
7. Keep credentialing of provides up to date

Resources cont.

Serrano, Claudette, *Best Practices in Billing TB Services*

https://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/sites/default/files/2024-11/Best%20Practices%20in%20Billing%20TB%20Services_Claudette%20Serrano_1.pdf

Best Practices in Billing Topics

- County of Orange Auditor Controller
- County of Orange Healthcare Agency
- Medical Billing Unit Core Functions & Responsibilities
- Orange County Healthcare Pulmonary Disease Services
- Medical Billing Unit Coder and Biller Review Requirements
- Billing Guidelines & Program Requirements
- PDS & Direct Observed Therapy (DOT) Billing Workflow
- Examples of Billing TB Screening & TB DOT Services
- Accurate Applications of CPT/ICD-10/HCPSC Codes

October 3, 2023, California Tuberculosis Controllers Association Educational Conference
Sharpening the Focus: TB Care and Elimination Through a Health Equity Lens

<https://ctca.org/events-calendar/2023conference/>

Breakout: Best Practices in Billing for TB Services

Margarita Sablan, CPC, Medical Coder, SDCHHA (BBMS Coding-TB, Handout1Coding & Coding handout2)

Sandra Calvario, Program Manager, Ventura County Health Care Agency (VCHCA) (BB2BillingVentura)

Claudette Serrano, Medical Billing Unit Supervisor, OCHA (BB3BillingOrange)