



Tuberculosis in California

California reports 20% of the active TB cases diagnosed in the U.S.

- Every four hours a Californian is diagnosed with TB disease
- Every other day a Californian dies with TB disease
- The number of cases of TB disease identified each year in the U.S. remains close to 10,000.
- ~ 2,000 people are diagnosed and begin treatment for TB disease in California each year
- ~2,400,000 Californians are living with TB infection
- Approximately 1--2% of TB cases are resistant to the two most potent drugs used to treat TB

Basic TB Facts

- TB is spread when a person with active TB coughs and releases infectious particles into the air. People who share the same air and breathe in TB can become infected.
- People with TB infection can progress to TB disease when immune systems are weakened by conditions like diabetes, smoking, HIV, medications, or aging.

Public health departments oversee and assure effective treatment of TB

- TB programs within health departments across California evaluate 10,000 persons suspected to have TB and nearly 20,000 contacts of people with TB each year.
- Public health TB program staff ensures completion of appropriate drug therapy to cure TB, prevent new cases of TB and prevent development of drug resistant strains of TB.

Together, we can make California TB Free: Assess, Test, and Treat TB infection

- CTCA urges the public to know the signs and symptoms of TB. Know your TB risks by completing the CTCA TB risk assessment. Talk with your provider about your need for a TB test if you have a TB risk.
- CTCA urges primary care providers to partner with their local TB control programs to develop a routine way to complete TB risk assessments on all of their patients, test those with TB risks, and treat patients with TB infection.
- CTCA urges national advocacy partners to continue their work to eliminate drug shortages that limit our ability to provide effective TB treatment. This is a public safety concern.
- The California Conference of Local Health Officers asks our national representatives to be aware of the continued threat of TB and to support the elimination of this treatable and preventable disease by joining the TB Elimination Caucus co---chaired by Reps. Eliot Engel (D---NY), Gene Green (D---TX) and Don Young (R---Alaska).