

# How to Report Persons Suspected or Confirmed to be Living with TB Disease and Persons Living with TB Infection (LTBI)

## Reporting guidelines:

Texas law requires that certain communicable diseases, including TB, be reported to the local or regional health department.

- Information on the Texas Administrative Code can be found here:  
[Welcome to the Texas Administrative Code](https://www.sos.texas.gov/tac/index.shtml)  
<https://www.sos.texas.gov/tac/index.shtml>  
List of reportable diseases can be found here:
- [Notifiable Conditions | Texas DSHS](https://www.dshs.texas.gov/notifiable-conditions)  
<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/notifiable-conditions>

## What to report:

- Please report the following items on all patients who are suspected to have TB disease or who have TB disease (if available):
- Patient's name, date of birth, address and phone number
- Most recent history and physical
- Copy of TB skin test result or IGRA result
- Copy of chest x-ray report
- Copy of sputum results – both AFB smear and culture results
- Most recent CBC and liver function tests
- HIV test results (if done)
- Documentation of signs and symptoms of TB
- TB400 B
- Infectious Disease Report (EEPI-2)

## Please report the following items on all patients who have been diagnosed with latent TB or TB infection:

- Patient's name, DOB, address, and phone number
- Copy of TB skin test results or IGRA results
- Copy of CXR report that shows no evidence of active TB disease.
- Documentation that patient has no signs or symptoms of active TB disease.
- TB400 A
- Additional information can be found here:  
Tuberculosis Elimination - Public Health Region 8 | Texas DSHS Section: Who We Serve & How We Serve [Tuberculosis Elimination - Public Health Region 8 | Texas DSHS](https://www.dshs.texas.gov/regional-local-health-operations/texas-public-health-region-8/public-health-region-8/tuberculosis-elimination-texas-public)  
<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/regional-local-health-operations/texas-public-health-region-8/public-health-region-8/tuberculosis-elimination-texas-public>

## Where to report:

- All reports are to be faxed to the TB program at (512) 206-3949.
- If you have trouble faxing the records, please call (210) 949-2196 or (210) 949-2195.

Region 8 provides clinical services to patients who are listed as contacts to cases of active disease. These include identification and testing of patients with a TB skin test or IGRA test, directly observed preventive treatment for contacts who are at high risk for progression to active TB disease, chest x-ray referrals, and medication for those diagnosed with latent TB or TB infection.

Region 8 provides clinical services to patients who are referred through the Electronic Disease Network that include nursing assessments, TB skin tests or IGRA tests, sputum collection, chest x-rays, and medication administration.

## TB treatment guidelines:

Active TB disease is treated by DSHS staff with many medications over the course of many months. As such, it is imperative to ensure the patient is responding to treatment clinically, radiographically, and bacteriologically. Additionally, close monitoring of liver functions and complete blood counts are required due to the side effects and hepatotoxic nature of the medications.

DSHS staff provide medications to patients with active or suspected TB disease via directly observed therapy to ensure compliance and to quickly identify any problems in treatment. DSHS staff also coordinate with medical providers in the community to share treatment updates and refer patients for services.

Treatment guidelines for active TB disease used by DSHS staff can be found here:

[Clinical Guidelines | Tuberculosis \(TB\) | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/guidelines/treatment.htm)

<https://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/guidelines/treatment.htm>

## TB infection treatment guidelines:

Many medical providers provide TB skin testing or IGRA testing for their patients. When a patient has a positive test, a signs and symptoms screen and chest x-ray (PA and lateral is recommended) is required to determine if the patient has active TB disease.

If a patient has no evidence of active TB on his or her CXR, has no signs or symptoms of active TB disease and has a positive TB skin test or IGRA test, he or she may be diagnosed with latent TB or TB infection. Treatment for latent TB or TB infection requires fewer medications and can be prescribed by providers in the community.

Treatment guidelines for TB infection can be found here:

[Latent Tuberculosis Infection: A Guide for Primary Health Care Providers](https://www.cdc.gov/tb/media/pdfs/Latent-TB-Infection-A-Guide-for-Primary-Health-Care-Providers.pdf)

<https://www.cdc.gov/tb/media/pdfs/Latent-TB-Infection-A-Guide-for-Primary-Health-Care-Providers.pdf>



TB statistics Information on TB for Texas and Region 8 can be found here:  
[TB Epidemiology Reports and Fact Sheets | Texas DSHS](http://dshs.texas.gov/idcu/disease/tb/statistics/)  
<http://dshs.texas.gov/idcu/disease/tb/statistics/>

**DSHS Region 8 provides the clinical services listed above to patients who live in the following counties:**

- **Eastern Counties:** Atascosa, Bandera, Comal, Gillespie, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Jackson, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, La Salle, Lavaca, Medina, Real, Wilson.
- **Western Counties:** Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Kinney, Maverick, Uvalde, Val Verde, and Zavala.

**Questions?** Here is our reporting and contact information.

All reports must be faxed to the Region 8 TB program at (512) 206-3949. If you have trouble faxing the records, please call (210) 949-2196 or (210) 949-2195.

**Cases of TB or suspected TB:**

- Melina Granados BSN, RN (210) 949-2148 - Eastern Counties
- Claudia Martinez, RN (830) 758-4798 - Western Counties
- Edilia Gonzalez, LVN (830)758-4274 - Binational Program

**Contacts to cases or suspected cases of TB:**

- Kayla Reyes, TB Contact Investigator (210) 949-2092

**Correctional facilities:**

- Alondra Cisneros Romo (210) 949-2007

**Please address any mailed documents to:**

Texas Department of State Health Services, Region 8 TB program  
7430 Louis Pasteur Dr. San Antonio, TX 78229  
Or vía Fax (512) 206-3949

