



WRITTEN REPORTS ON COMMITTEES AND WORKGROUPS Agenda Item X. EC Committees/Workgroups Discussions

A: Legislative and Advocacy – Bob Benjamin

No written report available.

B: Screening Legislation – Karen Smith

After extensive review of the literature and practice experience in other states, a subcommittee of the executive committee recommended proceeding with the development of legislation to remove the current requirements for tuberculosis screening of teachers, bus drivers and volunteers. The issue was taken to the CCLHO Communicable Disease Committee which then made a motion to the CCLHO Board that CCLHO work with the Health Officers Association of California to develop legislation to remove the above mentioned screening requirements. There was a lively discussion at the Board meeting. Two points were raised. First was a concern about whether going forward with such legislation at this time might not be construed as sending a message that TB is no longer an important public health issue. A compelling argument was made by others, however, that we should support science-based public health policy and that not putting such legislation forward because we're worried about how it might potentially be construed "politically" would be inappropriate. The motion to support development of legislation passed with the caveat that a statement of support for the legislation did not mandate that work on the legislation begin immediately. The legislative committee recommends that the executive committee make an effort to determine how important this issue is to TB controllers. If a significant number of controllers are in favor of going forward now rather than at a later date and can state compelling reasons for doing so, it is likely that CCLHO would support pursuing the legislation.

C: Legal Order Workgroup – Charlie Crane

We will discuss the September 21, 2005 revised version of the Public Health Institute's memo entitled, "Procedural Due Process Requirements for Recipients of TB Control-Related Home Isolation and Work Exclusion Orders." This memo discusses the legal aspects of due process requirements for health officers when TB-related Home Isolation and Work Exclusion Orders are issued to protect the public health. We encourage TB Controllers to share and discuss with their county counsels. A copy of this memo is included [here](#).

D: Guidelines Review and Priorities – Tony Paz

Members: Tony Paz (co-chair), Judith Thigpen (co-chair), Helene Calvet, Julie Low, Charlie Crane

*Please review this report and **complete the attached Straw Poll prior to the TB Controllers Meeting** so we can obtain your input and comments.*

We congratulate the previous work of the Guidelines Review Work Groups; their efforts have been many. The work that remains is still substantial and following is our appraisal of guidelines and issues that require attention.

Within the next few months there will be major CDC and NTCA guidelines coming out that will impact us all: Contact Investigation Guidelines (CDC/NTCA), QFT-Gold (CDC), TB Control in the US



(CDC/ATS) and TB Control in Health Care Facilities. Additionally, WHO (UCSF) will release a meta-analysis on the issues of whether 2 or 3 sputa are needed and whether they need to be collected on the same day in order to consider a patient non-infectious. The meta-analysis will also shed some light on cultures and high-risk settings.

Taking all of these things into consideration, the current work group has met several times in the last three months and we foresee immediate work on several guidelines/issues. Therefore, we need your input and comments at this meeting.

What should we work on next?

- 1- QuantiFERON-Gold guidelines; pending CDC MMWR publication
 - a) Impact: Substantial. The impact to the TB community will be substantial not only on existing guidelines but also on TB control protocols and laboratories.
 - b) Work needed: Moderate to major. (Note: it will be easier if we can use the QFT in any situation the TST is used; then we can do a simple addendum to all guidelines that mention TST).
- 2- Contact Investigation Guidelines; pending CDC/NTCA publication
 - a) Impact: Moderate. This publication will impact existing CA CI Guidelines but we expect the impact to be moderate.
 - b) Work needed: Moderate. We will review and identify major revisions(if any) to the CA guidelines or simply highlight differences or adopt CDC/NTCA guidelines.
- 3- Renal Dialysis (pending work group review)
 - a) Impact: Moderate.
 - b) Work needed: Minor. A great deal of work has already been done and currently the lead work group members anticipate some reorganization and minor editing; therefore a small amount of work is needed.
- 4- High-risk settings; pending meta-analysis publication
 - a) Impact: Substantial. Significant cost savings to health care facilities anticipated by reducing length of stay for infectious TB patients being discharged to high risk settings. Low impact on TB control programs.
 - b) Work needed: Minor to moderate. Once WHO releases the meta-analysis, we will need to review and decide a course of action given the publication and other pertinent information. We could handle the changes with a simple addendum.
- 5- CTCA Guidelines process (pending work group and TBCB review)
 - a) Impact: Substantial. The process determines how to work on guidelines. The CTCA work group and the State TB Branch need these guidelines in order to proceed with any future guidelines revision.
 - b) Work needed: The Branch and the EC have already done a substantial amount of work. The current work group needs to review that work, bring it to current status and have the Branch give input and finalize the Guidelines Process. Once finalized, the guidelines process will be applied to the above four guidelines/issues.

Therefore, we would like to poll all TB Controllers. ***Please give us input on what you consider to be priorities by completing the attached Straw Poll (found as the last page of this***



document) and returning it no later than October 3, 2005 to jthigpen@dhs.ca.gov. We will collate the Straw Poll and report the results to you at the meeting, where we encourage your comments and input.

Most importantly, we ask for your collaboration and participation in working on these guidelines. If you cannot participate, please consider assigning someone from your staff to join this work group.

The more participation we receive, the more guidelines we can address.

Thank you,
Guidelines Review Work Group



CTCA GUIDELINES STRAW POLL

Please complete this poll and return to Judith Thigpen, CTCA Executive Administrator, no later than October 3, 2005 at the following email address or fax number:

Email: jthigpen@dhs.ca.gov

FAX: 510-620-3058

Guideline	Priority Rank (1-4)	Will participate in workgroup	Will assign staff to participate
QuantiFERON-GOLD			
Contact Investigation			
Renal Dialysis			
High Risk Settings			

Name:

Position:

Jurisdiction:



E: Long Range Planning – Allyson Tabor

A large part of the November EC Meeting will be devoted to Long Range Planning, which marks the one year anniversary of our first Long Range Planning summit. One of the main items for discussion will be the financial strength of the organization and fundraising. We are recruiting volunteers from local health jurisdictions for committee work. Please join us.

F: Comments from the floor regarding written committee/workgroup reports

1. Education Committee Report – Tony Paz, Chair

Members: Tony Paz (chair), Lynette Leviste, Janie Burkhart, Phyllis Ritchie and Michael Joseph

During last year, several ad hoc members met to discuss whether the Educational Committee was necessary in CTCA. The resounding response was that it is an important component of CTCA and its mandate should be updated.

The charge of this temporary working group is to modify the existing Bylaws and Charter pertaining to the Educational Committee so that they reflect a more enhanced and pertinent role of this important committee in TB control.

The members have met via phone and have reviewed the CTCA Bylaws pertaining to the Educational Committee as well as the Charter of the Educational Committee.

Members have provided input and the work group is working on the next drafts. The work group will report back to EC once it has a final draft document. We anticipate completing the work prior to the Spring Conference. At that time, we will form a formal Educational Committee.

2. Finance – Julie Low, Secretary-Treasurer

The Spring 2005 CTCA Conference was profitable by \$830.11, largely because of the vendor fees received. CTCA does not profit on the conference registration fees. At this conference, various members of CTCA gave a total of \$749.77 in private donations, which will be used to fund scholarships for others to attend future CTCA Conferences.

CTCA was also the recipient of a \$5000 grant from the Friendship Fund. Part of this grant was used to provide scholarships for the Spring 2005 CTCA Conference. The remaining funds from this grant will be used to provide scholarships for the Spring 2006 Conference.

CTCA's total net assets as of August 31, 2005 are \$32,620.36.

3. Joint CTCA/IUATLD-NAR Conference 2/08 – Charles Crane

Background: The North American Region (NAR) of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD), also known simply as the UNION, holds an Annual Meeting, which is considered one of the best TB conferences anywhere. It rotates between the US (generally Chicago) and Canada (Vancouver). Many of us attended the 2004 meeting, Working Without Borders to Stop TB, in Austin, TX. Many faculty and participants came from Central and South America, especially Mexico. Simultaneous Spanish translation and travel grants were available. The Executive Committees of CTCA and NAR have agreed to hold a joint conference in 2008 with a similar focus on



border and migration issues. CTCA will benefit from the ability of NAR to attract world-class presentations. NAR will benefit by learning of our experiences with migration here in California. A joint Planning Committee has been formed and has met twice to begin discussing topics, participants and logistics. This will be our Annual Conference (no Spring Conference) in 2008. Mark your calendars now for this unique and exciting opportunity.

Dates: Wednesday, February 27 – Saturday, March 1, 2008 (4 days)

Location: TBA, San Diego, CA

Planning Committee: Charles M. Crane (CTCA Co-Chair), Charles Wallace (TB Controller, Texas, NAR Co-Chair), Tony Paz (CNTC), Kathy Moser (TB Controller, San Diego), Judith Thigpen (CTCA), Menn Biagtan (BC Lung Association), Kitty McAndrews (ALA Metropolitan Chicago), Sacsy Sucharon (San Diego Lung Association).

4. LTBI Guidelines Revision Update – Allyson Tabor, Chair

After a long revision process, the final review process is taking place. After committee members and the executive committee of CTCA sign off on the draft, it will be submitted for formatting. Once formatted, the draft will be mailed out to TB Controllers for a 2 week review and comment period. We anticipate approving the Guideline before the end of the year.

5. NAHPF – Marie-Fe Tiongson, Representative

No written report available.

6. Rural and Small Jurisdictions – Charlotte Clunn, Chair

EC is discussing the role of the RSJ representative on the executive committee. A proposal for deleting the position has come up for discussion. Feedback from TB Controllers is requested