



## CALIFORNIA LABORATORY REQUIREMENTS: TUBERCULOSIS

### REGULATION

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- ◆ California Code of Regulations TITLE 17. Public Health
  - Division 1. State Department of Health Services
    - Chapter 4. Preventive Medical Service
      - Subchapter 1. Reportable Diseases and Conditions
        - Article 1. Reporting
          - § 2505

### INFORMATION MANDATED TO BE REPORTED TO THE HEALTH OFFICER

- ◆ patient name, gender, address, age or date of birth
- ◆ date specimen obtained, patient identification number, unique specimen identifier, laboratory findings, date positive findings were identified
- ◆ submitting health care provider (HCP) name, address, and phone number

### REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ Who must report?
  - The laboratory director or designee of the laboratory making the positive finding
  - A laboratory receiving a reportable result from an out of state laboratory must report just as if the finding had been in a California laboratory
  - A California laboratory having a reportable result on a specimen from an out of state submitter must report to the submitter and to the submitter's state epidemiologist
- ◆ To whom must the laboratory director report?
  - Local health officer of the jurisdiction where the HCP who submitted the specimen is located.
- ◆ What is the timeframe for reporting?
  - Within one working day from the time that the laboratory notifies the HCP or other person authorized to receive the report.
  - If a laboratory making the positive finding received the specimen from another laboratory, the laboratory making the positive finding must report to the local health officer within one working day of notification of the submitting laboratory.
- ◆ What must be reported?
  - Findings of any examination of any specimen derived from the human body which yields microscopic or other evidence suggestive of tuberculosis, *e.g.* sputum smears positive for acid fast bacilli, positive nucleic acid amplification tests, histologic evidence.
  - Isolation of any member of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (except the bacilli Calmette-Guerin (BCG) strain) from any culture

### OTHER MANDATES

- ◆ Laboratories must submit a culture from the primary isolate to the public health lab designated in Title 17 section 1075 for the jurisdiction in which the submitting HCP is located.
- ◆ Acid fast bacillus (AFB) positive smears
  - The laboratory will culture and identify the acid fast bacteria (or refer for culture and identification) whenever a specimen from a patient with known or suspected tuberculosis tests positive for AFB staining, and there has been no culture in the prior 30 days which identified the organism.

- ◆ Drug susceptibility testing:
  - Must be performed (or the isolate referred for testing) unless already performed on another isolate from the same patient within the prior 3 months.
  - Results must be reported to the local health officer of the jurisdiction where the submitting HCP is located within one working day from the time the submitter is notified.
  - If an isolate demonstrates resistance to at least isoniazid and rifampin, one culture or subculture must be submitted to the local public health laboratory of the health jurisdiction of the submitting HCP. That local public Health laboratory will then forward the culture to the Mycobacteriology and Mycology Section, Microbial Diseases Laboratory, CA DHS, 850 Marina Bay Parkway, Richmond, CA 94804