



Other Considerations for Contact Investigations

Kathryn Yoo, MPH

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TB Contact Investigation

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Kathryn Yoo, MPH has the following disclosures to make:

- No conflict of interests
- No relevant financial relationships with any commercial companies pertaining to this educational activity





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Kathryn Yoo, MPH, Epidemiologist
Texas Department of State Health Services
Tuberculosis and Hansen's Disease Unit

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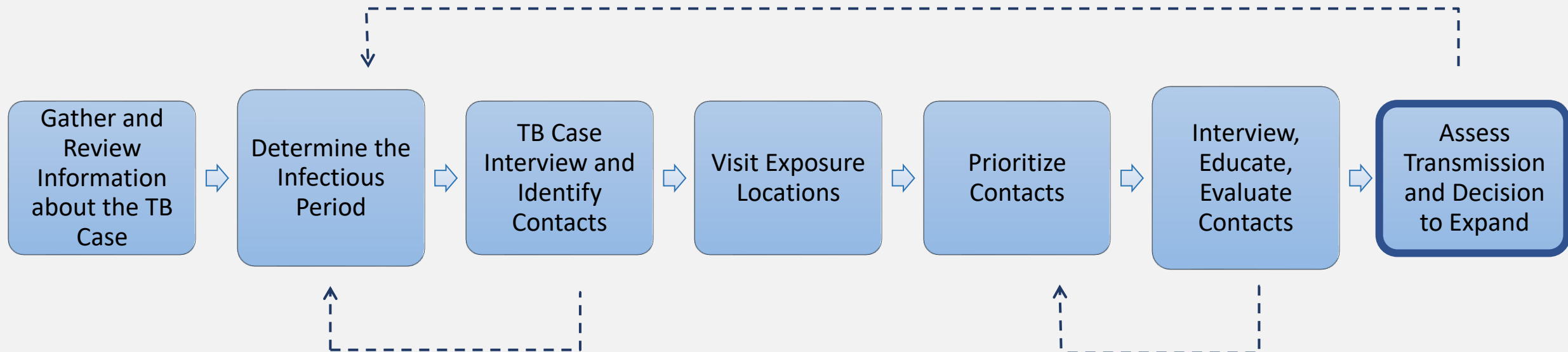
Objectives

1. Understand when a contact investigation (CI) should be expanded
2. Understand when a CI is considered closed or complete
3. Preparing for media coverage

Closing or Expanding a Contact Investigation



Assessing a Contact Investigation



Always Expand a TB Contact Investigation When...

- Infection among contacts <5yo
- Contacts diagnosed with TB disease
- Higher than expected infection rate
- Conversions from first to second round testing
- Infection among low-risk contacts

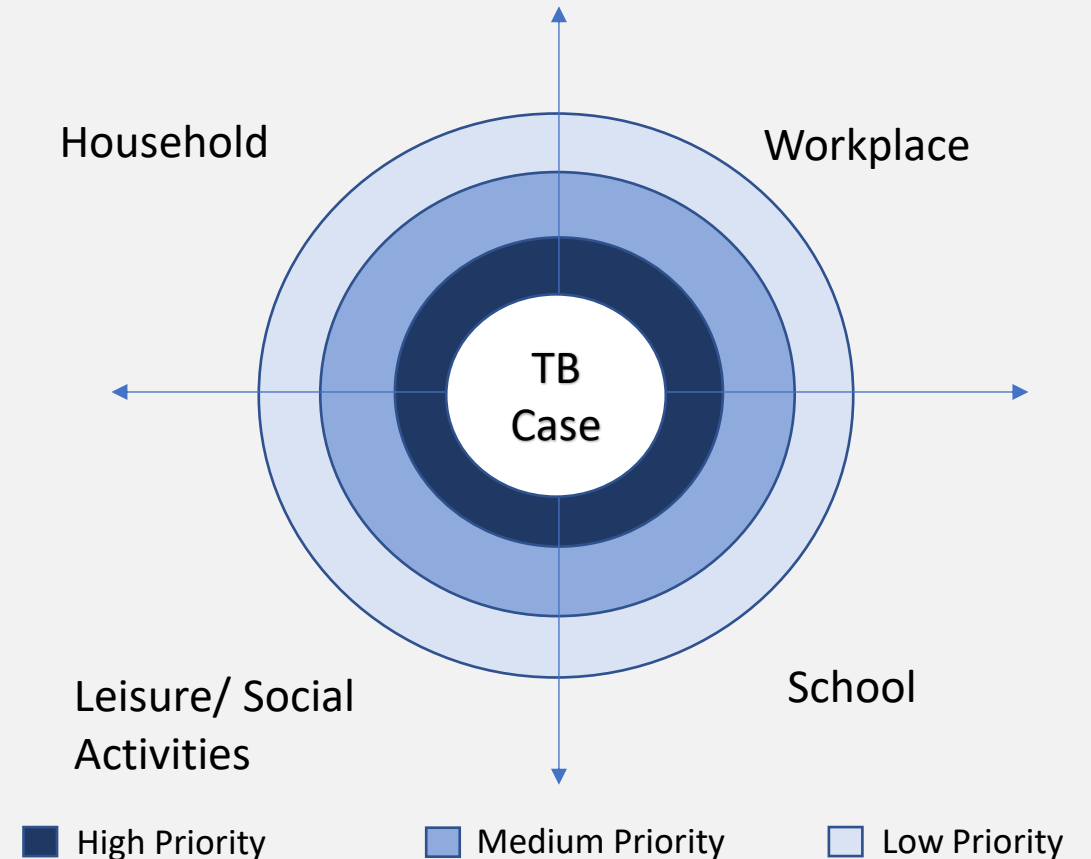
TB-460: TB Contact Investigation Expansion Check-List

Factors Indicating Transmission	YES	NO	Details
1. Rate of Infection in contacts is equal or more than 20% in initial testing.			The rate of infection is: _____% <i>Infection rate formula</i> $\frac{\# \text{ of new positives}}{\text{Total \# of contacts newly tested (per exposure environment)}} \times 100$
2. Positive test for any child < 5 years of age.			Number of children < 5 years of age with a positive test: _____
3. Test-result conversion of any contact from negative to positive from initial to second round testing.			Number of contacts converted from negative to positive: _____
4. Infection among casual or low-priority contacts.			Number of casual or low-priority contacts infected: _____
5. Evidence of secondary transmission among any contacts.			Name of contact who developed TB disease: _____

How to Expand a TB Contact Investigation

- If transmission is observed, expand testing to the next layer of the concentric circle
- Consult with TB Unit Epidemiology Team

Concentric Circle Approach for Contact Evaluation and CI Expansion



When to “Close” the CI

Recent/ongoing transmission is not observed

Identified contacts have been screened and offered treatment

- Contacts should only be considered “lost to follow-up” after :
 - Phone call
 - Home or other site visit
 - Sending certified-mail notification of need for screening

TB Contact Investigations and the Media



Media Coverage of TB Contact Exposures

- Contact investigations, especially large-scale or special settings, have the potential for media coverage
- If the media becomes involved, it is important to:
 - Immediately notify the TB Unit
 - Maintain and protect patient confidentiality
 - Provide education to the local community to prevent panic



Opportunities During Media Coverage

- Educate the public about TB
- Highlight the importance of public health efforts
- Demonstrate health department leadership in communicable disease investigations, prevention and care activities
- Guide public inquiries to the health department
- Communicate need for resources to be committed to public health to improve communicable disease investigations and provide prevention and care services

Questions?

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TBEpi@dshs.texas.gov