



Division of Public and Behavioral Health Technical Bulletin

Date: March 21, 2016
Topic: Updates to Tuberculosis Laws for 441A.350, 441A.375 & 441A.380
Contact: Camy Retzl, TB Controller, OPHIE, Division of Public & Behavioral Health
To: Healthcare Providers, Medical Facilities, and Correctional Facilities

- **Current Situation:** The Nevada Administrative Code's (NAC) Tuberculosis laws (Chapter 441A.350 through 441A.380) have changed effective September 2015. Changes were made to requirements for testing, surveillance and diagnoses for healthcare facilities, healthcare providers, corrections, and local health departments. Regulations can be found at <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-441A.html>.
- **Summary of Major Changes for Tuberculosis:**
 - **Diagnosis:** (NAC 441A. 350)
 - Cases of children under the age of 5 with Latent TB Infection (LTBI) are now a reportable disease; must be reported within 24 hours
 - **Testing:** (NAC 441A.375 & 441A.380)
 - A tuberculosis (TB) screening test includes either an approved skin or blood test.
 - Employees, independent contractors and volunteers must complete all TB screening tests before beginning any employment activities.
 - A facility may complete a risk assessment and document that determination in lieu of annual TB testing activities; it must be conducted at least annually.
 - Individuals who test positive for TB are exempt from annual TB testing but must complete a signs and symptoms questionnaire.
 - An individual who tests positive for TB must submit to diagnostic TB screening tests and be offered counseling and treatment options.
 - **Surveillance:** (NAC 441A.370, 441A.375 & 441A.380)
 - TB surveillance activities (including annual TB testing) must include healthcare workers of employees, independent contractors and volunteers.
 - Correctional facilities must consult with their local health authority to develop and implement TB infection control plans as well as contact investigation activities, when needed.
 - A chest x-ray is no longer required when admitting residents/patients into a residential facility.
- **Contact Information:** Should you have any questions about any Nevada policy or regulation regarding tuberculosis prevention and control requirements, or if you need additional clarification on how your facility can accurately conduct TB screening activities, please reference the following resources:
 - Nevada Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program, cretzl@health.nv.gov or 702.486.0089 <http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/TB/>
 - Nevada Administrative Code (NAC): <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-441A.html>
 - U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC): <http://www.cdc.gov/>

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