

Windsor-Essex County Health Unit

Dear Colleague:

It is estimated that a physician may be in practice for over 10 years before being faced with managing an Active TB case. However, Latent TB Infection (LTBI) is much more common. Under the Health Protection and Promotion Act both are considered reportable diseases.

25. (1) A physician or a practitioner as defined in subsection (2) who, while providing professional services to a person who is not a patient in or an out-patient of a hospital forms the opinion that the person has or may have a reportable disease shall, as soon as possible after forming the opinion, report thereon to the medical officer of health of the health unit in which the professional services are provided. R.S.O. 1990, c.H.7, s.25; 1998, c. 18, Sched. G, s. 55 (2).

Definition:

(2) In subsection (1),
“practitioner” means,
(a) a member of the College of Chiropractors of Ontario,
(b) a member of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario,
(c) a member of the College of Nurses of Ontario,
(d) a member of the Ontario College of Pharmacists,
(e) a member of the College of Optometrists of Ontario, or
(f) a person registered as a drugless practitioner under the Drugless Practitioners Act.
1998, c.18, Sched. G, s.55 (3).*

I would like to take this opportunity to point out two publications you may want to refer to when managing LTBI and Active TB cases:

- *Canadian Tuberculosis Standard, 6th Edition, 2007*, issued by the Public Agency of Canada and the Lung Association
- *Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Tuberculosis Protocols, September 2006*

You are able to access these documents by visiting our website at www.wehealthunit.org, **Disease and Condition, Tuberculosis.**

Secondly, I have enclosed the:

- **“Roles and Responsibilities in TB Control”** for physicians, the health unit and laboratories.
This document may also be found in the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Tuberculosis Protocols, September 2006, pages 8, 9, 10, and 123.
- **“Tuberculosis Reporting Form”** for LTBI and Active TB
- Other resources.

If you have any questions regarding the management of LTBI or Active TB, please feel free to contact me or the TB Program Information Line at 519-258-2146 extension 1777.

Sincerely,
G. Allen Heimann, MD, MHSc
Medical Officer of Health