

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 1/7/02
Department Name: Public Health Department
Department No.: 041
Agenda Date: 1/15/02
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Roger E. Heroux, M.P.H., Director
Public Health Department

STAFF CONTACT: Frank Alvarez, M.D., M.P.H. Deputy Health Officer
681-5281

SUBJECT: Inter Region Cooperative Agreement and Amendments #1 and #2 with the County of Los Angeles for a Tuberculosis Detention Program

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A.) Execute an Agreement with the County of Los Angeles, Department of Health Services for civil detention of non-cooperative sputum smear positive tuberculosis (TB) patients for Santa Barbara County Public Health Department.
- B.) Execute Amendment #1 with the County of Los Angeles, Department of Health Services which defines procedures, and policies for billing and payment, patient admission/discharge, and patient monitoring and the services offered at different levels of care.
- C.) Execute Amendment #2 with the County of Los Angeles, Department of Health Services, which extends the term of the original agreement to June 30, 2004.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with:

Goal No. II. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit.

Goal No. V. A High Quality of Life for All Residents.

Goal No. VII. A Community that Fosters the Safety and Well-Being of Families and Children.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

On August 17, 1999, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors implemented a regional tuberculosis (TB) patient referral program to receive referrals from other State of California Health Jurisdictions who are under lawful detention orders pursuant to Health and Safety Code §121365. The Los Angeles county Inter-Region Detention Center provides an integrated approach for the civil detention of persistently recalcitrant or chronically sputum smear positive TB patients. It is in the best interest of the public to develop a less

restrictive regional alternative to a criminal detention setting, which enables non-compliant TB patients under civil detention to be placed in a Regional Detention Facility to complete an appropriate treatment program which will allow the individual to return to the community.

The detention facility includes acute and skilled nursing care at High Desert Hospital, which is located in Lancaster, California. This establishment has greatly aided the effective enforcement of the civil detention of individuals with TB who require extended hospitalization due to medical and/or social factors.

Currently, a homeless patient is hospitalized locally who has a history of non-compliance to prescribed TB therapy, has no housing, and is a risk to the community. When discharged from acute care, the only option is for the patient to be housed at the main jail. By executing this agreement and amendments, the patient would be transferred to the Regional Tuberculosis Detention Program and decrease the public health risk.

It is anticipated that there is approximately one (1) patient per year requiring referral to this program.

Mandates and Service Level:

This is not a mandated program; however, the California Health and Safety Code §121365 authorizes the referrals from jurisdictions of patients who are under lawful detention orders.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

For those active Santa Barbara County TB patients detained under this Memorandum of Understanding at High Desert Hospital, the State TB Control Branch will reimburse Los Angeles County \$285 per day which will cover their entire charge. However, if a Santa Barbara County TB patient requires any acute care hospitalization while detained at High Desert Hospital, the charge per day from Los Angeles County will become \$1,195 a day. As the State will reimburse Los Angeles County \$285 per day, the net cost for which Santa Barbara County will become responsible is \$910 per day.

Because of the anticipated low volume of the patients requiring referral to this program, the execution of this agreement is not expected to have a material fiscal impact. Currently, the majority of acute care TB patients not eligible for Medi-Cal are eligible for the County's Medically Indigent Adult (MIA) program. Therefore, any fiscal impact of this agreement will be negligible.

Special Instructions:

Please call Hortensia Cruz a 681-5145 to pick up three (3) copies of the agreement and three (3) copies of amendments #1 and #2 with original signatures and one (1) Certified Minute Order.

Concurrence:

Auditor-Controller
County Counsel
Risk Management