Tuberculosis Control

Santa Barbara County

Board Presentation Frank Alvarez, MD, MPH/Deputy Health Officer Public Health Department May 20, 2008

What Is Tuberculosis?

- A bacterial respiratory disease
 - Untreated can cause major disability and death
 - Preventable, treatable and curable with a long course of medications

Granulomas from Mycobacterium tuberculosis

 A disease required to be reported to the Public Health Department

What Is Tuberculosis?

- Seen in active and latent forms
 - Active TB <u>Disease</u> is often contagious
 - Latent TB infection is never contagious
 - 5-10% of those with latent TB will develop active TB in their lifetimes
 - The first 2 years after latent TB infection are the highest risk for progressing to active TB disease



Tuberculin Skin Test

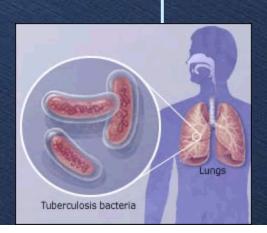


TB Chest X-Ray

What Is Tuberculosis?

 TB is treatable and curable in both latent infection and active pulmonary disease forms

Mycobacterium



CDC Guidelines:

How Does Public Health Respond to TB?

Priority 1

Identify and treat individuals with active TB disease

Priority 2

 Test close contacts of active TB cases; treat those infected to prevent disease progression

Priority 3

- Infected children <3 yrs (source case finding)
- Screen populations (in high risk settings) at high risk for active TB

Where does PHD Focus Its Screening Efforts?

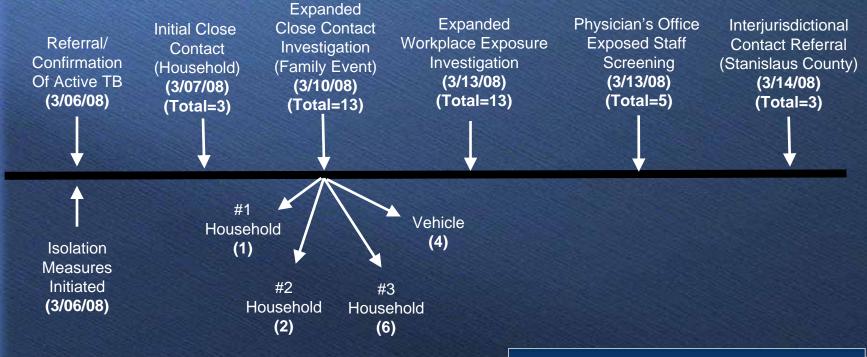
- Homeless
- Incarcerated
- Individuals with suppressed immune systems (e.g., HIV)







TIMELINE: Investigating One Active TB Case

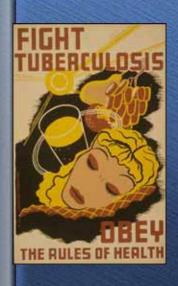


Total 37 Contacts Screened

1st Round: 36/37 Evaluated (TST & CXR)

2nd Round Due: May 1, 2008

Are We Making Progress in Stopping TB?



- The priorities for TB detection and treatment are working
- Progress is significant at national, state and local levels
- Active TB cases have steadily decreased since 1993
 - SB County Data

