

## Case Definition

### Confirmed Case:

A confirmed case can be either of the following:

- **Laboratory confirmed case:** Cases with Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex demonstrated on culture, specifically *M. tuberculosis*, *M. africanum*, *M. canetti*, *M. caprae*, *M. microti*, *M. pinnipedii* or *M. bovis* (excluding *M. bovis* BCG strain).

#### OR

- **Clinically confirmed case:** In the absence of culture proof, cases clinically compatible with active TB that have, for example:
  - Chest radiographic changes compatible with active TB.
  - Active nonrespiratory TB (meningeal, bone, kidney, peripheral lymph nodes, etc.).
  - Pathologic or post-mortem evidence of active TB.
  - Favourable response to therapeutic trial of antituberculosis drugs.

## Clinical Evidence

See clinically confirmed case definition above.

## Reporting Requirements

Report confirmed cases to DHW Surveillance via Panorama.

Select appropriate initial staging option in the “staging” field in Panorama.

- Update the staging field if/when new information becomes available.

Complete and upload Canadian Tuberculosis Air Travel Reporting form (if applicable) to Panorama and notify DHW Surveillance **immediately** via the Surveillance Inbox.

## New and Re-Treatment Cases

All new and relapsed cases of TB diagnosed in Canada who meet the case definition must be reported (includes cases who are Canadian born, immigrants, refugees, refugee claimants, work visas, student visas, visitors, migrant workers and illegal aliens). However, for non-Canadians travelling with or without a visa, stopping in Canada enroute, report only TB cases for which treatment was started in Canada. The province/territory where treatment starts is to report the case.

### New Case:

No documented evidence or adequate history of previously active TB.

### Retreatment Case<sup>1</sup>:

- Documented evidence or adequate history of previously active TB that was declared cured or treatment completed by current standards.

#### AND

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<sup>1</sup> Prior to 2008 in Canada, re-treatment cases were known as relapsed cases.

- At least 6 months have passed since the last day of previous treatment<sup>2</sup>.  
**AND**
- Diagnosed with a subsequent episode of TB that meets the active TB case definition.  
**OR**
- Documented evidence or adequate history of previously active TB that cannot be declared cured or treatment completed by current standards.  
**AND**
- Inactive<sup>3</sup> for 6 months or longer after the last day of previous treatment<sup>2</sup>.  
**AND**
- Diagnosed with a subsequent episode of TB that meets the active TB case definition.

## Airline Travel While Potentially Infectious

All active or suspected active respiratory TB cases with a history of airline travel must be reported to DHW via telephone to determine the need for a contact investigation and possible completion of the Canadian Tuberculosis and Air Travel Form ([Aircraft Reporting Form.cdr \(phac-aspc.gc.ca\)](http://phac-aspc.gc.ca)). Guidance for completion of the form can be found at [Microsoft Word - June 2009 TBAT Guidelines\\_E.doc \(phac-aspc.gc.ca\)](http://phac-aspc.gc.ca).

This form is not embedded within Panorama. If the form is applicable, it should be completed and uploaded into Panorama by the person reporting the TB case.

## Additional Forms

See [Surveillance Forms](#) for details:

- *Canadian Tuberculosis and Air Travel Form and Canadian Tuberculosis and Air Travel Guidelines* (if applicable)

## TB Information for Health Professionals

Please visit the following link for more information on TB.

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/tbpc-latb/pdf/guidelinesform-eng.pdf>.

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<sup>2</sup> If less than 6 months have passed since the last day of previous treatment & the case was not previously reported in Canada, report as a re-treatment case. If less than 6 months have passed since the last day of previous treatment & the case was previously reported in Canada, do not report as a re-treatment case. Submit an additional "Treatment Outcome of New Active or Re-Treatment TB Case" form at the end of treatment.

<sup>3</sup> Inactivity for a respiratory TB case is defined as 3 negative TB smears & cultures with a 3-month duration of stability in serial chest radiographs or a 6-month duration of stability in serial chest radiographs. Inactivity for a non-respiratory TB case is to be documented bacteriologically, radiologically and/or clinically as appropriate to the site of disease.