SCOPE:

The purpose of this policy is to identify and manage the members at risk for infectious tuberculosis (TB) and that providers of TB services and treatment comply with the guidelines recommended by the American Thoracic Society, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and DSHS (Department of State Health Services) policies and standards.

DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
- Tuberculosis (TB)

POLICY:

CHRISTUS Health Plan (CHP) members with active TB will have access to health care providers experienced in the treatment and reporting requirements of active TB.

A. All procedures required to screen at-risk members and to form the basis for a diagnosis and proper prophylaxis and management of TB are available to all members, including direct access to tuberculosis services provided by Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) approved providers for Directly Observed Therapy and contact investigation.

B. The Medical Management Department provides both members and providers education on the prevention, detection, and effective treatment of TB. The Medical Management Department will assign a Case Manager to any member deemed as being susceptible to TB because of certain risk factors, behaviors, drug resistance, or environmental conditions.

C. The Medical Management Department consults directly with the local TB control program to ensure that all services and treatments are in compliance with the guidelines recommended by The American Thoracic Society (ATS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in addition to the DSHS policies and standards.

D. The Medical Management Department requires Providers to report all confirmed or suspected cases of TB to the local TB control program within one (1) working day of identification. In addition:

1. The Medical Management Department assigns a Case Manager to work with providers and members to develop a treatment plan and to coordinate Prevention and control efforts with the local TB control program.
2. The Medical Management Department will coordinate with the local TB control program to ensure that all members with confirmed or suspected TB have a contact investigation and have received a Directly Observed Therapy (DOT).

3. Members’ medical records will be provided upon request to DSHS and the local TB control program for all confirmed and suspected TB cases.

4. Providers will report to DSHS or the local TB control program any member who is non-compliant, drug resistant, or who is or may be posing a public health threat.

E. The CHP provider network includes hospitals that can be used for treating members with infectious TB. If a member is admitted with infectious TB, the following steps will be taken:

1. No prior authorization for determination of medical necessity will be required; however, the hospital must notify the plan of the admission within one (1) business day to initiate case management and coordination of post-hospitalization care.

2. All members admitted to the hospital with infectious TB will be followed by the Medical Management Nurse and will be assigned to a Case Manager for post-discharge follow-up DOT with the local TB program.

3. The Medical Management Nurse will coordinate with the DSHS South Texas Hospital and Texas Center for Infectious Disease for voluntary and court-ordered admission, discharge plans, treatment objectives and projected length of stay for members with multi-drug resistant TB.

F. If the Medical Management Department or one of the health plan Providers receives a written court order to hospitalize a Member with TB who has been deemed to present a threat to the public health, CHP providers shall hospitalize the member immediately upon receipt of the court order and cooperate with the local TB control board in endorsing appropriate control measures and quarantine procedures as outlined in Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

REFERENCES:
- American Thoracic Society
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- DSHS (Department of State Health Services)

RELATED DOCUMENTS:
None
# HEALTH PLAN POLICY

**Policy Title:** Identification and Management of Members with Infectious Tuberculosis (TB)  
**Policy Number:** M05  
**Revision:** D

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Nancy Horstmann  
Chief Executive Officer Health Plans

David Engleking, M.D.  
Medical Director

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**REVISION HISTORY:**

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<thead>
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<th>Revision</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description of Change</th>
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<td>New</td>
<td>06/25/2014</td>
<td>Initial release.</td>
<td>Board of Directors</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>12/01/2016</td>
<td>Annual review. Updated to current template.</td>
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<td>09/28/2017</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>04/24/2019</td>
<td>Annual review. Product lines updated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>05/13/2020</td>
<td>Annual review. Made minor grammar correction. No change to policy content.</td>
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