


Tuberculosis (TB): Here and Now

Session One of a Four-Part Webinar Series
Presented in Partnership with the
BC Lung Association



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Overview

- What is tuberculosis (TB)?
- Review of global, national, provincial, and regional incidence of TB disease (2011)
- TB transmission
- TB pathogenesis
- TB and smoking
- Q&A







Learning Objectives



At the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Describe the 2011 incidence of TB disease in Canada and British Columbia
- Identify populations at increased risk for TB in BC
- Explain how TB is transmitted
- Explain the difference between TB infection and TB disease
- Describe the influence of medical and other risk factors on progression from TB infection to TB disease



Abbreviations and Key Terms




- **TB bacteria:** bacteria that can cause TB disease
- **LTBI:** latent TB infection
- **MDR-TB:** TB that is resistant to isoniazid (INH) and rifampin
- **XDR-TB:** TB that is resistant to INH, rifampin, fluoroquinolones and at least one of three injectable drugs (amikacin, kanamycin, capreomycin)
- **Cavity/Cavitation:** a chest X-ray finding in some cases of pulmonary TB disease

Tuberculosis - Etiology




***Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex:** several closely related mycobacteria that cause TB disease

- *M. tuberculosis* including MTB subspecies, *canetti*
- *M. bovis*
- *M. africanum*
- *M. caprae*
- *M. microti*
- *M. pinnipedii*

What is Tuberculosis (TB)?

- An infectious disease
- Often (but not always) attacks the lungs

What was the most unusual presentation of TB disease that you have seen or heard about?



What is Tuberculosis (TB)?

- An infectious disease
- Often (but not always) attacks the lungs
- Usually (but not always) curable with appropriate treatment
- Untreated, kills more than 50%
- Typically, only cases with respiratory disease transmit

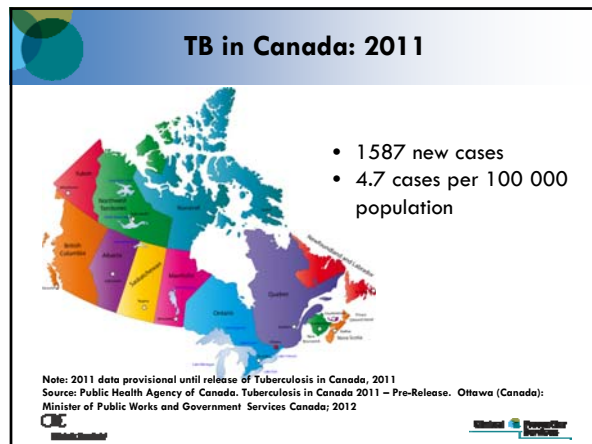


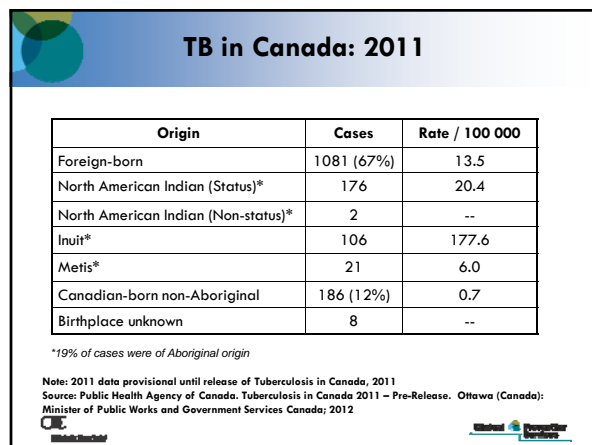


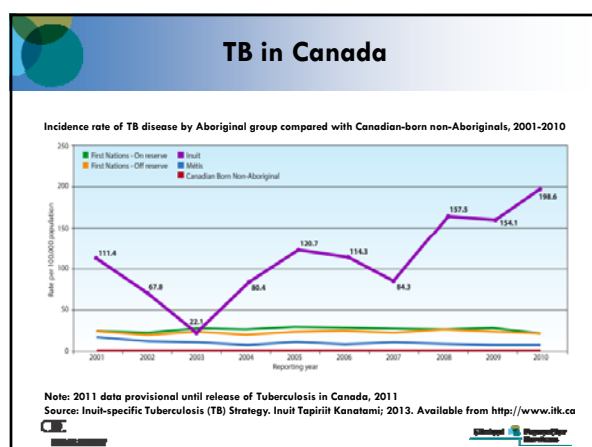
- 1/3 of the global population infected with TB
- 8.7 million new cases, 1.4 million deaths (2011)
 - 310 000 cases of MDR-TB (est)
 - 3.7 % of new cases and 20% of previously treated cases MDR-TB
 - 60% of MDR-TB cases: India, China, and Russian Federation
 - 9% of MDR-TB have XDR-TB

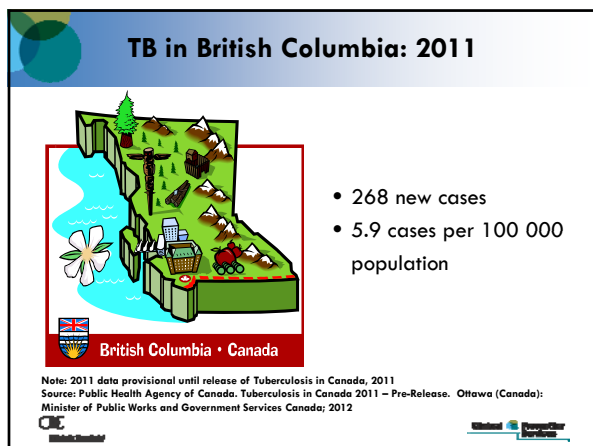
Source: http://www.who.int/tb/publications/factsheet_global.pdf

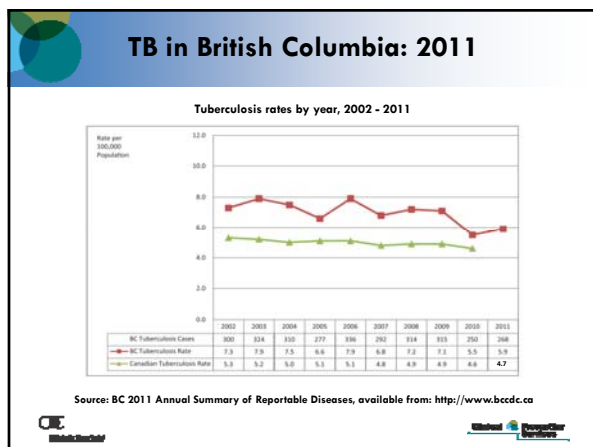


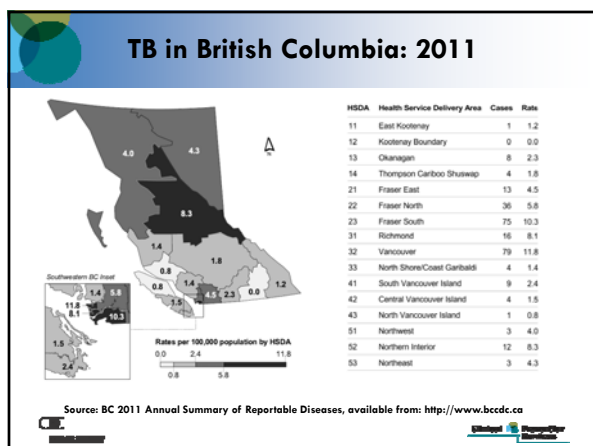


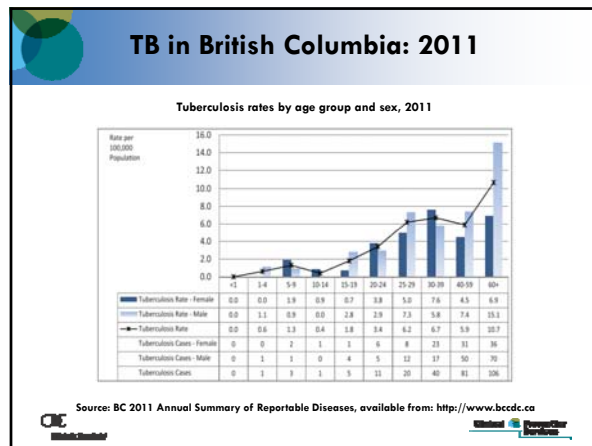












TB in British Columbia (2011)

Origin	Cases	Rate / 100 000
Foreign-born	194	14.7
Aboriginal*	26	19.6
Canadian-born non-Aboriginal	34	1.1
Other and Unknown	15	--
BC Total	269	6.5

* Includes Registered and Non-registered aboriginal, both on- and off-reserve

Source: BCCDC, F. Hutton, April 4, 2013


Foreign-born Cases of TB Disease BC, 2011

Five most common countries of origin:

- India
- Philippines
- China
- Hong Kong
- Vietnam

How is TB Transmitted?

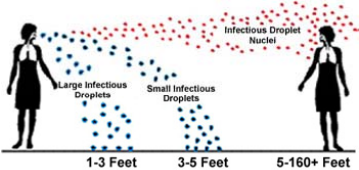
Transmission is almost always via air contaminated with droplet nuclei that contain TB bacteria



CDC
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

BC CDC
British Columbia Centre for Disease Control

TB Transmission – Droplet Nuclei



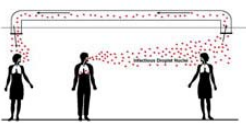
Droplet nuclei can remain suspended for hours and...

Larger droplets settle to the ground more quickly

CDC
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TB Transmission – Droplet Nuclei



...droplet nuclei can travel on air currents!

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Did You Know...

Not everyone who is exposed to TB disease will become infected with TB bacteria; risk of transmission depends on several factors.



Risk of TB Transmission

Risk of transmission is influenced by:

1. Concentration of droplet nuclei
 - Degree of infectiousness of case
 - Exposure environment
2. Specifics of the exposure event(s)
3. Susceptibility of contacts
4. Virulism of the TB bacteria



1. Concentration of Droplet Nuclei



Concentration = Case + Environment



Case-Related Influences

Concentration of droplet nuclei influenced by:

- **Type of TB disease**
(i.e., respiratory TB vs. non-respiratory TB)
- **Extent of TB disease**
(e.g., cavities on CXR, AFB smear + sputum)
- **Behaviours**
(e.g., strength and frequency of cough)



Environmental Influences

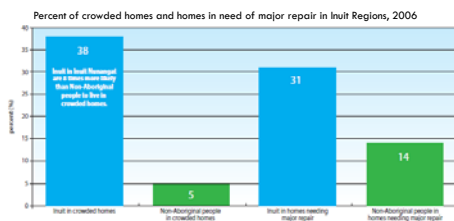
Concentration of droplet nuclei influenced by:

- Physical proximity to the source of TB bacteria*
- Room size (air volume)
- Air circulation pattern
- Rate of air exchange
- Presence or absence of ultraviolet light



Environmental Influences (con't)

- Level of humidity & degree of crowding



Source: Inuit-specific Tuberculosis (TB) Strategy. Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami; 2013. Available from <http://www.itk.ca>



2. Specifics of the Exposure Event(s)

- Concentration of droplet nuclei (MTB) in the air
- Characteristics of the exposure:
 - How often (frequency)
 - How long (duration)
 - Timing of the exposure(s) relative to the level of infectiousness of the case



3. Susceptibility of Contacts

- Prior infection*
- Personal respiratory protection



3. Susceptibility of Contacts

BCG vaccine DOES NOT protect against infection with TB bacteria!



4. Virulism of the TB Bacteria



Some strains of TB bacteria might be more easily transmitted than others



TB Transmission: Inhalation



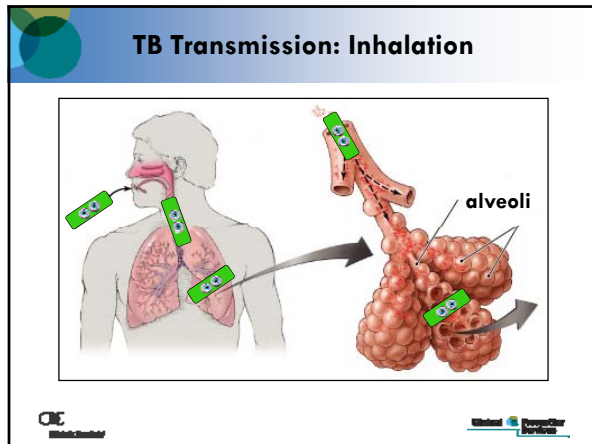
TB Transmission: Inhalation

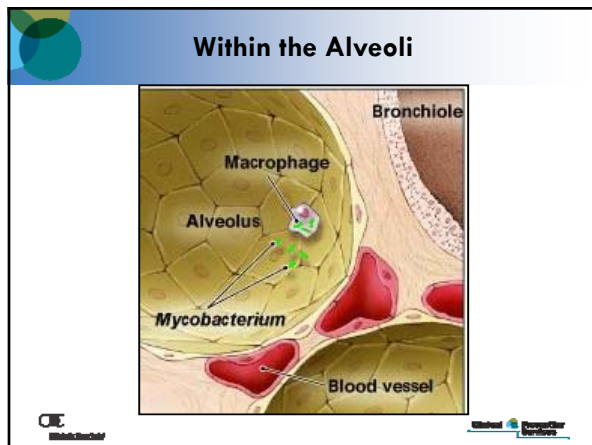
When a person with infectious **TB disease** coughs, sneezes, sings or shouts, TB germs are passed into the air in “droplet nuclei”.

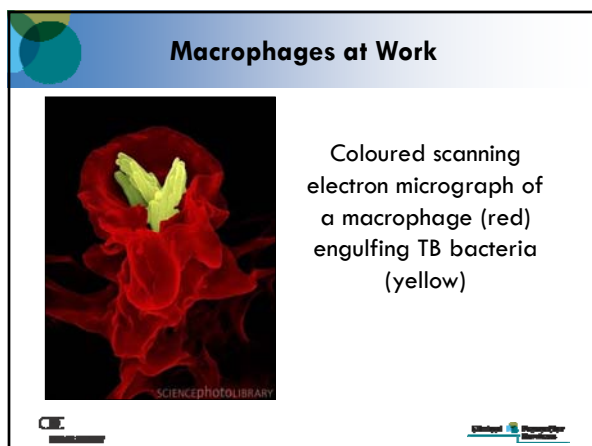


People become infected with TB germs by inhaling droplet nuclei.





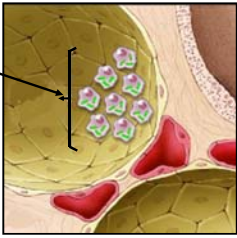




Development of Immune Response: Weeks 3 to 8

TB bacteria multiply within macrophages

Cell mediated immunity and delayed-type hypersensitivity (CD4) are stimulated*



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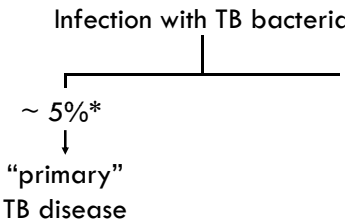
TB Pathogenesis: Primary TB Disease

Infection with TB bacteria

~ 5%*

↓

“primary” TB disease



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What is “Primary TB Disease”?

- ~5% of newly infected are unable to limit bacterial replication
- TB disease will develop within 18 to 24 months or sooner (immune suppressed)
- Pleural TB, TB meningitis, and miliary TB are often presentations of primary TB disease

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Who is at Risk for Primary TB Disease?

PROTECT



them from
TUBERCULOSIS


Keep them away from sick people
Insist on plenty of rest
Train them in health habits
Consult the doctor regularly

Children less than 5 years of age;

Without treatment for LTBI, 40% will develop TB disease within 2 years of becoming infected with TB bacteria.

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Who is at Risk for Primary TB Disease?



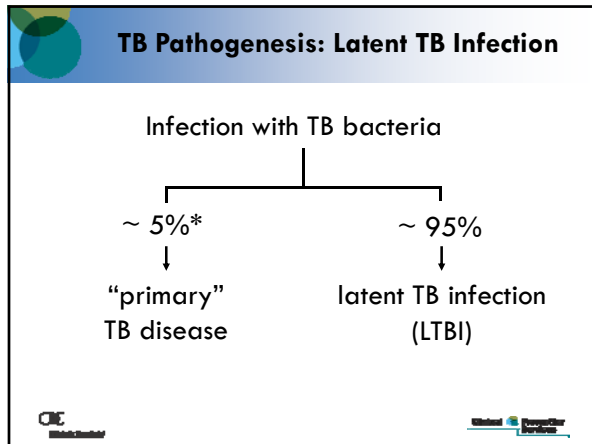
AIDS + new infection with TB bacteria = TB disease
in 37% within 5 months

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How does risk for primary TB disease impact TB prevention and control practices?



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Latent TB Infection (LTBI)


The term ‘LTBI’ is used to describe the situation when a person is infected with TB bacteria but has not developed TB disease.

Latent TB Infection (LTBI)

Person is infected with TB bacteria but:

- **NO symptoms** of current TB disease
- **NORMAL** clinical examination and chest x-rays
- **NO TB bacteria** in clinical specimens (e.g., sputum)
- **NOT** contagious
- **NOT** a “case” of TB disease

Latent TB Infection (LTBI)



There are medications available to treat LTBI and prevent TB disease!

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TB Pathogenesis: Post-Primary TB Disease

```

graph TD
    LTBI --> A["~ 95%"]
    LTBI --> B["~ 5%* (over lifetime)"]
    A --> C["continued LTBI"]
    B --> D["eventually develop 'reactivation' or 'post-primary' TB disease"]
    
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Types of TB Disease


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graph TD
    TB_disease[TB disease] --> A["Non-respiratory TB  
24% of cases in Canada"]
    
```

Note: 2011 data provisional until release of Tuberculosis in Canada, 2011
Source: Public Health Agency of Canada. Tuberculosis in Canada 2011 – Pre-Release. Ottawa (Canada): Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada; 2012

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TB Lymphadenitis



- 13% of all TB cases*
- 55% of non-respiratory cases*
- Single or multiple nodes
- Cervical nodes most often affected

Note: 2011 data provisional until release of Tuberculosis in Canada, 2011
 *Source: Public Health Agency of Canada. Tuberculosis in Canada 2011 – Pre-Release. Ottawa (Canada): Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada; 2012

Types of TB Disease

TB disease

Non-respiratory TB

↓

droplet nuclei can be released under some circumstances*

Respiratory TB

↓

typically contagious prior to treatment

Latent TB Infection vs. TB Disease

LATENT TB INFECTION	TB DISEASE
• TB bacteria in the body; bacteria are inactive (latent)	• TB bacteria in the body; bacteria are active and multiplying
• Does not feel sick; no symptoms	• Feels sick; symptoms such as fever, weight loss, fatigue
• NOT contagious	• Could spread TB bacteria if contagious form of disease
• Could develop TB disease if TB bacteria become active and begin to multiply	• Almost always curable if diagnosed in time and treated appropriately
• Treatment can PREVENT development of TB disease in future	

Who is at Risk for TB Disease?

Risk Factor	Estimated Risk of TB Relative to Persons with No Known Risk Factor
HIGH RISK	
Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)	100-270
Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection	50-100
Transplantation (related to immunosuppressant therapy)	20-74
Silicosis	30
Chronic renal failure requiring hemodialysis	10-25
Cancers of head and neck	14
Recent TB infection (< 2 years)	15
Abnormal chest x-ray - fibronodular disease	6-19
INCREASED RISK	
Treatment with glucocorticoids	4.9
Tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-alpha inhibitors	1.5-4
Diabetes mellitus (all types)	2.0-3.6
Underweight (< 50% ideal body weight; for most persons this is a body mass index < 20)	2-3
Young age when infected (0-4 years)	2.2-5.0
Cigarette smoker (1 pack/day)	2-3
Abnormal chest x-ray - granuloma	2
LOW RISK	
Infected person, no known risk factor, normal chest x-ray ("low risk infection")	1

What does "High Risk" Look Like?

Positive TB skin test/IGRA or recent exposure **AND** :

- **HIV/AIDS**
- Chronic renal failure - hemodialysis
- Cancer of head, neck (or lung)
- Transplant
- Silicosis
- Chest X-ray findings = fibronodular disease
- Under 5 years of age*

What does "Increased Risk" Look Like?

Positive TST/IGRA less than 2 years ago **AND**:

- Under 5 years of age*
- Underweight
- Chest x-ray findings = granuloma
- Diabetes
- Immune suppressing treatment (e.g., prednisone, Embryl, Remicade, chemotherapy - can cause false negative TST)
- Smoking
