

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
Tuberculosis Control Branch (TBCB)
Patient Locating Service



Purpose: *To return TB patients to care by providing local health departments prompt technical and/or direct assistance with locating strategies and tools*

Background

TB patients with risk factors for poor adherence are more likely to have delays in diagnosis, treatment interruptions, serious medical consequences and default. If a TB patient cannot be located or becomes lost, he/she may also pose a public health risk and continue to transmit TB to others if infectious.

TB Patient Locating Service Team

Members of the team include experienced and motivated specialists in communicable disease investigation. All members have extensive training and experience in the areas of cultural diversity, field investigation, patient interviews and social networking.

When to Request Our Services

As soon as the TB case manager has determined that a TB patient cannot be located, give us a call. The Project Coordinator will review the information thoroughly and make recommendations to assist with locating the TB patient. Please don't wait!

Call or email:
Carol Greene, Coordinator
Phone: (510) 620-3033
Email: carol.greene@cdph.ca.gov
FAX: (510) 620-3031

Services Provided

The team's first priority is to assist local TB programs in locating lost patients with active or suspected TB. As resources permit, the team can also assist with locating high priority contacts or high priority B notification patients.

The TB Patient Locating Service is available to assist in the following ways:

- Prompt telephone consultation to evaluate the available patient information and likelihood of finding the patient
- Offer recommendations based on common investigative strategies in locating individuals
- Using available tools and investigative methods, perform people searches, interviews and field investigations
- Provide strategies and methods to prevent patients from becoming lost
- Locating patients who have become lost when moving between jurisdiction
- Individual and group training in how to conduct patient interviews, social networking strategies and field investigations