

# TUBERCULOSIS PREVENTION & CONTROL

## About Our Program

The Ben Franklin TB Control Program consists of the TB Clinic and the Direct Observed Therapy (DOT) Team. The Clinic screens for TB and treats patients for latent TB infection (LTBI) in contacts and in governmental Quarantine Referrals, and in persons at high risk for TB. The DOT Program treats active TB patients and their contacts at home, observes patients taking their medications, investigates new cases, works to stop TB disease from spreading, and educates the community.

## Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) is a communicable, airborne disease caused by the bacillus *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (M.tb). Persons who are infected with M.tb but not sick or contagious, have latent TB infection (LTBI). They most likely have a positive skin or blood test and a normal chest x-ray. About 10% of people with LTBI will go on to develop active TB disease in their lifetime. However, a medication called Isoniazid (INH), taken daily for nine months, kills the latent TB germ.

TB disease develops when the body's immune system can't keep the bacteria from growing and multiplying in your body. People with TB disease are sick and they may be able to spread the bacteria to other people with whom they spend time a lot of time every day.

People in close contact with someone over an extended time period who has active TB are at greatest risk for developing active TB disease themselves within two years.

## Ben Franklin Tuberculosis Control Program

*Serving Columbus and Franklin County Residents*

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Funded by: Franklin County Board Commissioners,  
Ohio Department of Health & the City of Columbus



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# COLUMBUS OHIO'S BEN FRANKLIN TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAM

# 2011 REPORT



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# FRANKLIN COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS

	2011	2010	2009	2008
<b>TB Cases in Franklin County</b>	50	66	41	61
<b>Cases per 100,000 in Franklin County</b>	4.3	5.8	3.6	5.5
<b>TB Cases in Ohio</b>	145	190	180	213
<b>Cases per 100,000 in Ohio</b>	1.3	1.64	1.6	1.9

## OUR CASES

### Residence & Origin:

- 34.5% of Ohio's active TB patients lived in Franklin County.
- 70% of Franklin County's active TB patients were foreign-born (born in other countries).

### Age:

- 22% were 15-24 years old, 38% were 25-44 years old, and 32% were 45 and over.

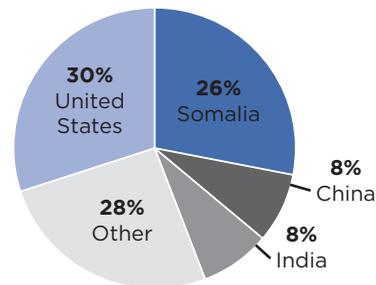
### Infection Location:

- 66% of cases had TB in the lungs, 28% had TB in other parts of the body, and 8% had TB both in the lungs and other parts of the body.

### Other Demographics:

- 48% of our TB cases were black, 32% were white, and 20% were Asian.
- 8% of active TB cases abused alcohol and/or drugs.
- 20% of active TB cases were unemployed.

Leading Countries of Origin



# TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- 93% of active TB patients completed therapy.
- 100% of active TB patients were interviewed by staff within 3 days of diagnosis.
- 90% of close contacts of active TB patients were evaluated for TB disease and infection.
- 95% of close contacts of TB patients, who were found to be infected with TB, were placed on medication to prevent their TB from becoming active.

## A SUCCESS STORY

Sheila P is a U.S.-born female who had a history of smoking, chronic alcohol use, and some periods of being homeless. In the spring of 2011, after numerous hospitalizations for a variety of health issues such as stomach bleeding and seizures, she developed symptoms of pneumonia, fatigue, and shortness of breath, so she went to the hospital.

June 2011, doctors took a tissue specimen from her lungs and had it analyzed: they found TB! Sheila became depressed from her health and social problems. TB staff and the TB Social Worker assisted her with mental health and alcohol/drug counseling linkage, with applications to pay for utilities that were being shut off, and assistance with working with her landlord about late rent and a bedbug and roach infestation. Ben Franklin TB Control Program staff helped with transportation for her medical appointments and arranged for Medicaid and Food Stamp assistance.

Besides the emotional support, TB staff provided daily visits observing her take her TB medications, assessing her for side effects, and for signs of improvement. In fact, daily observed therapy increases TB patients' likelihood to complete therapy to almost 95%. After about 9 months of treatment, Sheila had finished her medication regimen and was cured from her TB. She was also in an out-patient alcohol treatment program -- and on to a healthier, safer life!