Tuberculosis Prevention and Control in Canada

A presentation to the Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board Meeting, July 11, 2013

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TB is a Global Issue

• One third of the world’s population is infected with the TB bacillus

• Globally, an estimated 9 million cases of active TB disease develop every year

• The number of reported cases of active TB disease in Canada has remained relatively stable at approximately 1600 cases per year

• Resistant strains of TB are an emerging threat

Photograph: WHO/Sailendra Kharel
TB – Past and Present

Reported tuberculosis incidence and mortality rates - Canada: 1924-2011
Reported tuberculosis cases and incidence rates - Canada: 1991-2011
Tuberculosis incidence by province/territory as compared with the national rate (4.7 per 100,000): 2011
Number of reported tuberculosis cases by origin - Canada:
1991 - 2011

- Canadian-born Aboriginal
- Canadian-born non-Aboriginal
- Foreign-born

Reporting year
Distribution of TB cases with resistance to at least one first-line anti-tuberculosis drug by origin: 2001 - 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Foreign-born</th>
<th>Canadian-born non-Aboriginal</th>
<th>Canadian-born Aboriginal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>81.4%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>73.3%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>85.7%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>87.2%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>84.1%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>81.1%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>81.3%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>82.6%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>77.5%</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>70.5%</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>79.3%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
• Canada is a federal state: 10 provinces and 3 territories.

• Healthcare and public health are shared responsibilities between the federal government and P/T governments.
Public Health Agency of Canada

Mission:
• To promote and protect the health of Canadians through leadership, partnership, innovation and action in public health.

Vision:
• Healthy Canadians and communities in a healthier world.
Role of the Public Health Agency of Canada in TB Prevention and Control

- **Surveillance and epidemiology**
  - National surveillance of active TB disease and TB drug resistance
  - Outbreak support to provinces and territories on request

- **Professional guidelines and public health practice**
  - Canadian Tuberculosis Standards
  - Community Health Workers Survey

- **Laboratory support**
  - TB reference and diagnostic services

- **Collaboration**
  - Domestic (e.g. provinces and territories)
  - International (e.g. WHO, PAHO, CDC)
Key Publications
Moving Forward: Priority Areas for Action

• Focus efforts on reducing the burden of TB disease among Aboriginal Peoples and foreign-born individuals from high-incidence countries

• Work to address underlying risk factors for active TB disease
  » Social determinants related to TB include poverty, inadequate and overcrowded housing, food insecurity and substance abuse

• Collaborate with domestic and international partners
Contact Information

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