Welcome to Session 2 of the
Latent TB Infection
Virtual Provider Learning Sessions

We will begin in a moment!

While you are waiting…

Please use the chat to share the following information:

- What is your name & preferred pronouns?
- What is your title/role?
- What organization you are from?
- What is your favorite kind of candy?

Latent Tuberculosis Infection Virtual Provider Learning Session #2: Adherence Support

Thursday, November 19, 2020
9:30-11:30am

ta4si
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
FOR **SERVICE INTEGRATION**

Session Schedule

Risk assessment and testing
- Thursday 11/12 from 12-2pm

Adherence support
- **Thursday 11/19 from 9:30-11:30am**

Reporting and analysis
- Thursday 12/10 from 10-12pm

To register for future events, see email from Molly Rafferty

The objectives of the Virtual Provider Learning Sessions are to:

- *Update providers' knowledge and review resources that describe latent TB infection services, including risk assessment, testing, adherence support, and reporting*
- *Prepare agencies to plan for initiating or enhancing these services*
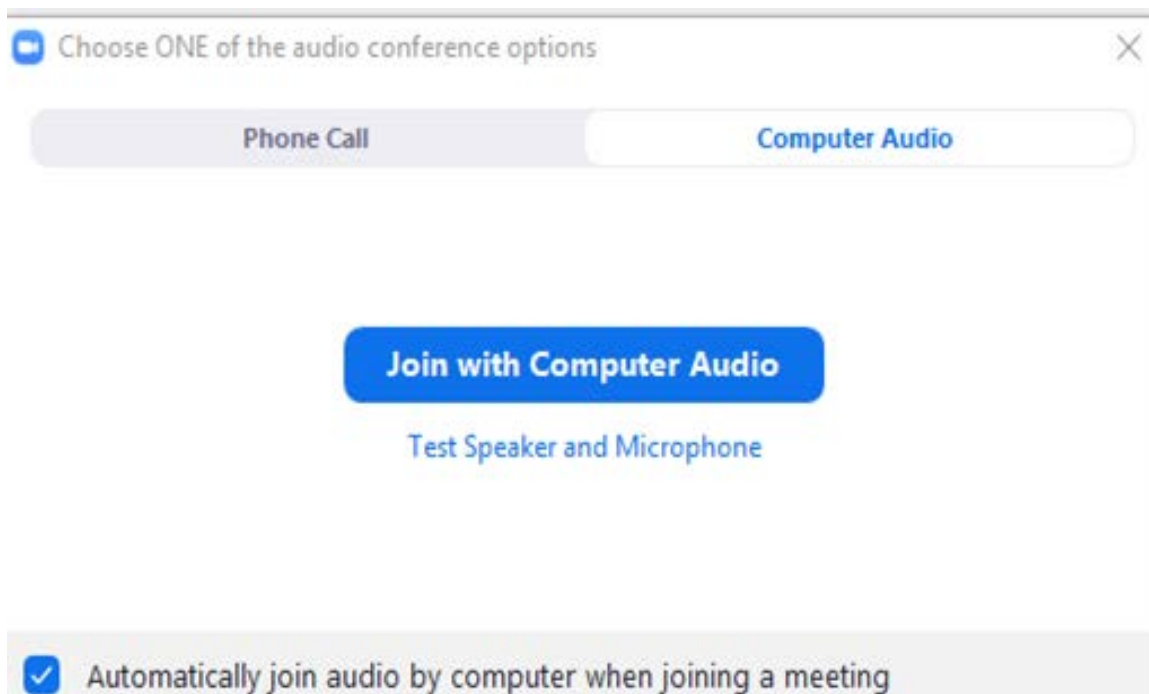- *Share lessons learned*

Session #2 Agenda

- Introductions
- Adherence basics: lessons learned from PACT (Prevention and Access to Care and Treatment)
- Adherence strategies and considerations for latent TB infection treatment
- Questions and discussion
- Break
- Breakout rooms
  - Pre-process mapping
  - Case study
- Wrap-up

Housekeeping: How to Connect to Audio by Computer

- Join using **computer audio** and a plug-in headset or computer speakers
- Please mute your line when you're not speaking
- If you're having audio issues, please chat the host

Choose ONE of the audio conference options

Phone Call	Computer Audio

Join with Computer Audio

Test Speaker and Microphone

☑ Automatically join audio by computer when joining a meeting

Housekeeping: Connecting by Phone, Using Video

Join by **phone**: Click **Join Audio**, **Phone Call** tab, dial the desired phone number, **Enter Meeting ID** & **Participant ID**
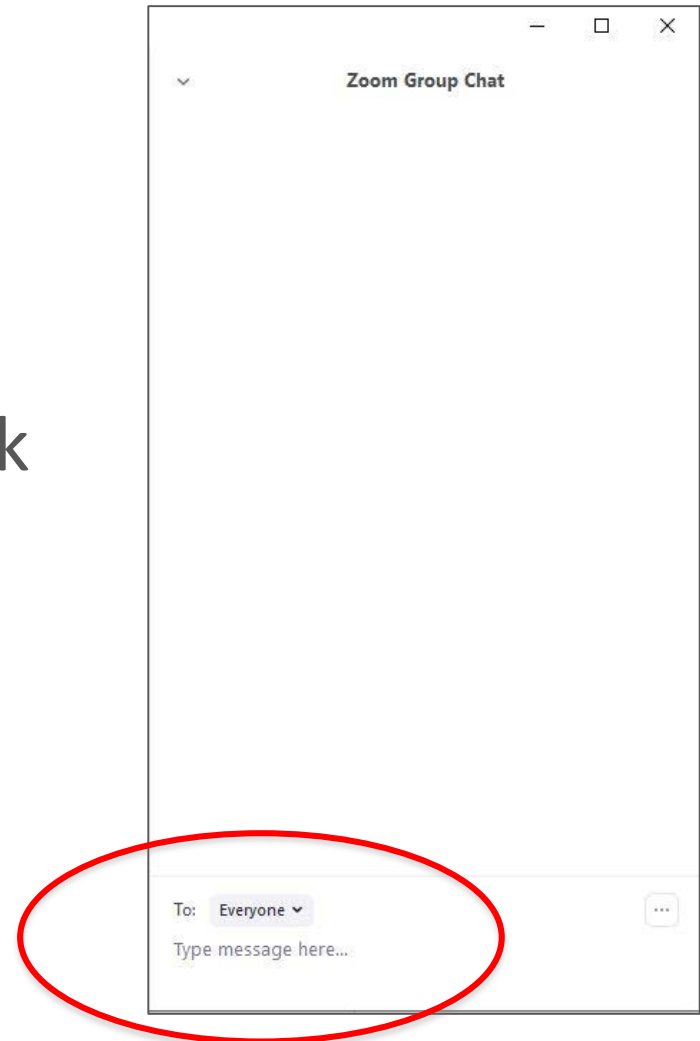
You will begin muted. To **unmute/mute** click the **Microphone icon**

Click **Start Video** to join by webcam
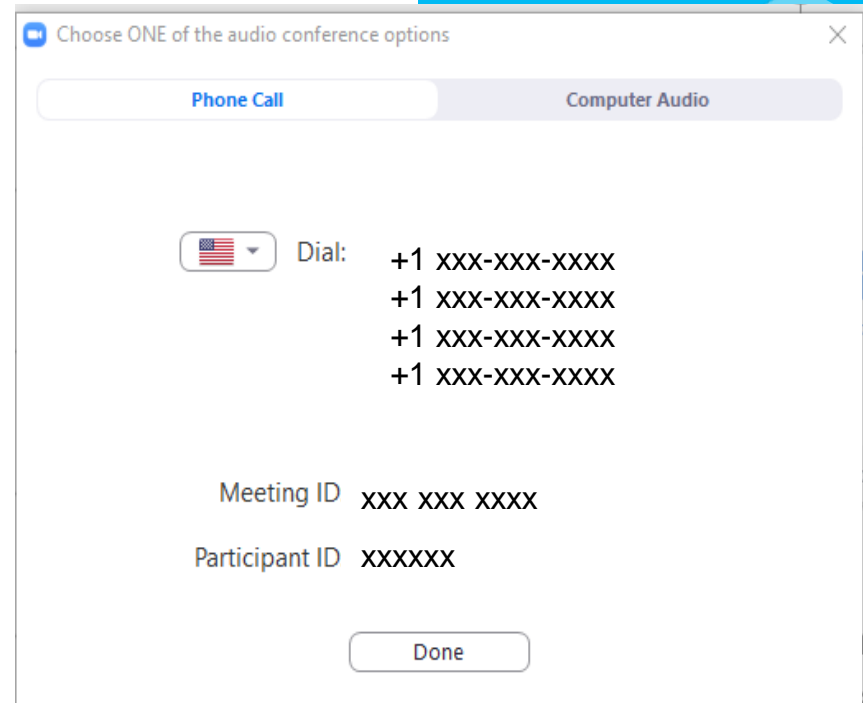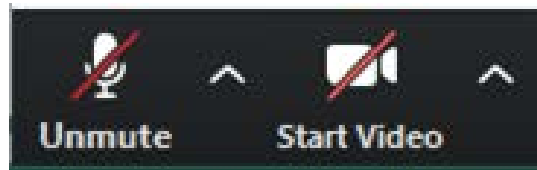
Housekeeping: Chat function

- Ask questions and join the discussion by using the chat feature or raising your hand to speak

Introductions -- Massachusetts Department of Public Health

- Andrew Tibbs
- Dawn Fukuda
- Denise Sanderson*
- Edward DeBortoli
- Emily Levine
- Frederick Kiggundu
- Jennifer Cochran*
- John Bernardo*
- Kevin Gavit

- Laura de Mondesert*
- Liisa Randall*
- Linda Goldman*
- Marisa Chiang*
- Monica Morrison
- Pat Iyer
- Sophie Lewis*
- Zakaria Ahmed-Gas*

MDPH staff involved in the design and/or facilitation of this session.

Introductions -- JSI/TA4SI

- Amy Sgueglia, Consultant*
- Sabrina Eagan, Technical Advisor*
- Molly Rafferty, Project Associate*
- Mira Levinson, Project Director
- Molly Higgins-Biddle, Project Manager
- Mikey Davis, Consultant
- Christine Luong, Consultant

Latent TB infection team leads

Fact Sheets

- Series of 9 Fact Sheets on latent TB infection services

- Purpose: Address key considerations for each component of testing and treating individuals with latent TB infection

- Audience: Intended for agencies receiving funding from MDPH BIDLS to provide infectious disease services, including TB testing and latent TB infection services

Components for Testing and Treatment of Individuals with Latent Tuberculosis (TB) Infection

Risk assessment

- Identify individuals appropriate for TB testing because they are:
  - at increased risk for infection; and/or
  - at increased risk of disease progression
- Explain the result of the risk assessment and next steps to the individual
- Document assessment result

Testing

- Choose an appropriate tuberculosis test
- Administer tuberculosis test
- Confirm and document that test result was read or received by healthcare provider
- Provide test result to the individual

Evaluation

- Link to provider to clinically evaluate for latent TB infection or TB disease
- Confirm and/or document linkage to evaluation services
- Confirm whether a diagnosis was given to the individual

Treatment

- Link to treating provider
- Confirm and document linkage to treatment services
- Confirm and document date treatment was started

Adherence support

- Assess/reassess treatment adherence support needs
- Provide support for adherence to treatment and retention in care

Reporting and analysis

- Report cases of latent TB infection; report TB disease/suspected TB disease to Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Report treatment outcomes, including date and reason stopped
- Assess quality of services and make improvements as needed

Treatment

- Link to treating provider
- Confirm and document linkage to treatment services
- Confirm and document date treatment was started

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Reporting and analysis

- Report cases of latent TB infection; report TB disease/suspected TB disease to Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Report treatment outcomes, including date and reason stopped
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The Fact Sheets will be posted on the TA4SI website:

https://ta4si.jsi.com/
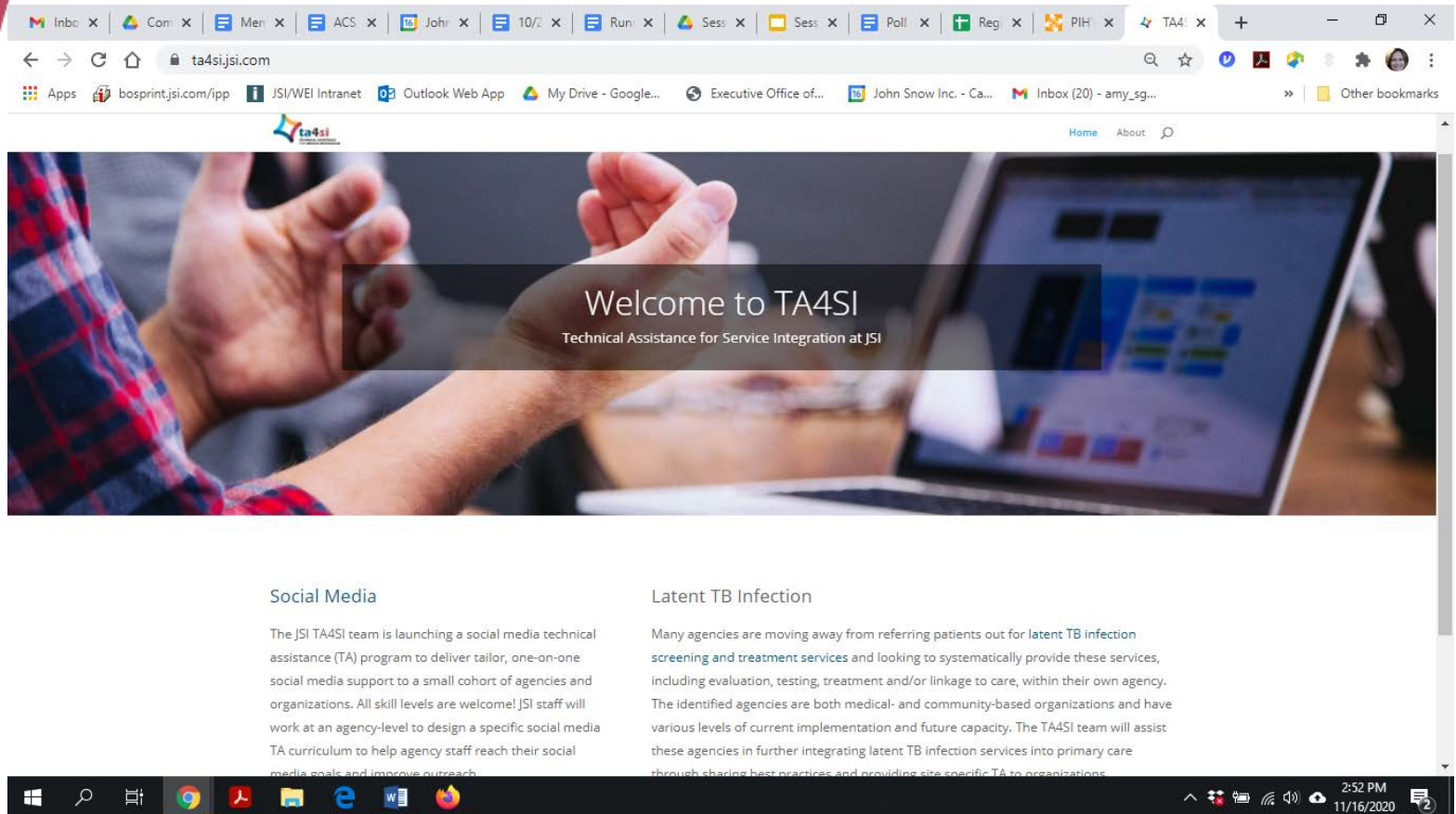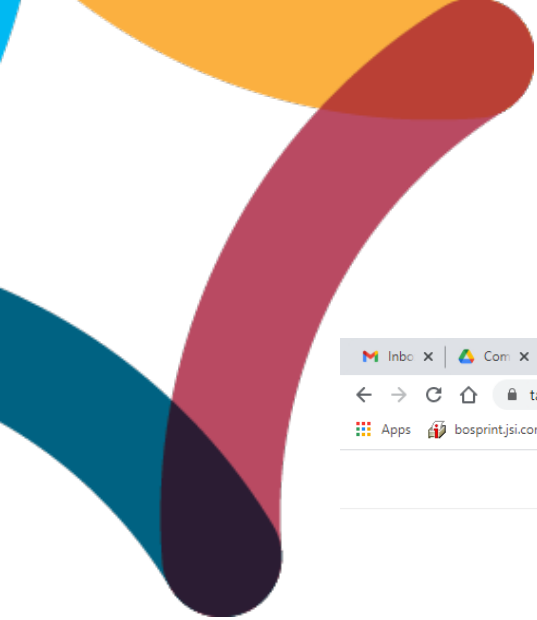
Latent TB Infection Components and Resources

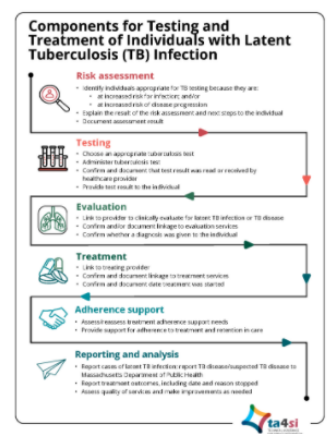**Latent TB Infection Components and Guidelines for Testing and Treatment**

This page provides resources for agencies in Massachusetts that provide latent tuberculosis (TB) infection services. Clinical and non-clinical providers will find resources that address key considerations for each component in the cascade of care for latent TB infection, including risk assessment, testing, evaluation, treatment, adherence support, and reporting and analysis. In addition, there are resources that provide information on related topics such as an introduction to latent TB infection; process mapping; and billing. If you have any questions about the resources on this page, please contact the TA4SI team.
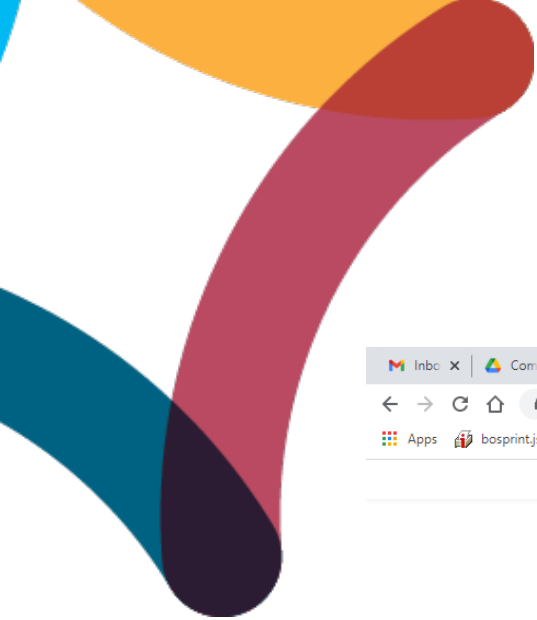
The accompanying graphic depicts the components for the testing and treatment of individuals with latent TB infection. This graphic gives an overview of the components of latent TB infection services, including steps to deliver each component to your clients. These components are not mutually exclusive and individual agencies may offer all or some of these components in their menu of services.

Fact Sheets

Here are a series of Fact Sheets on key components of latent TB infection service delivery. Click the links to view or download a PDF of each Fact Sheet.

Note: These Fact Sheets are intended to serve as a resource for agencies receiving funding from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH), Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences (BIDLS) to provide infectious disease services, including TB testing and latent TB infection services through the HIV/HCV/STI/TB

Components for Testing and Treatment of Individuals with Latent Tuberculosis (TB) Infection

agencies in Massachusetts that provide latent TB infection services. It includes links to tools and resources, and provides answers to questions including:

- What puts someone at increased risk for TB infection?
- What tools can my agency use to identify individuals at increased risk?
- I've identified someone at increased risk, what are the next steps?
- How should I communicate with individuals about risk for latent TB infection?
- What data considerations should I be aware of for linking individuals to TB evaluation services?

Component B: Testing

This resource provides an overview of diagnostic tests for TB infection for clinical and non-clinical staff from agencies in Massachusetts that provide latent TB infection services. It includes links to tools and resources, and provides answers to questions, including:

- What is the purpose of a TB test?
- What TB tests are available and how do they work?
- Where can I find more information on testing for TB infection?
- What are the next steps after TB testing is completed?
- What messages should I give to individuals about testing for TB infection?
- What data considerations should I be aware of for testing individuals for TB?

Process Mapping Component

This resource provides an overview of how to develop a process map for each component of latent TB infection services. Before implementing latent TB infection services, your agency will need to develop procedures to carry out each component and determine how these new services will fit into your workflow. For each component, think about all of the actions needed to carry out services, including how these actions link together and what is needed to start and complete each action or part of the component. Key questions to ask for each component as you develop these procedures are listed in the resource. As you answer these questions, your agency can develop a process map for the new service component you'll be providing.

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Poll Question:

What is your agency's stage of implementation for adherence support services?

Adherence Basics – Lessons Learned from PACT

Robin Gordon

Justice Resource Institute (JRI)

Adherence strategies and considerations for latent TB infection treatment
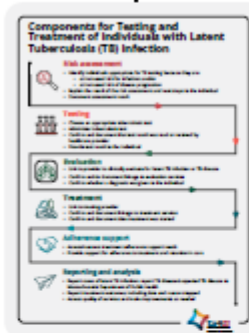## Overview

Jennifer Cochran
MDPH BIDLS

Fact Sheet on Adherence Support

COMPONENT E:
Adherence Support

This resource provides an overview of medication adherence support for latent TB infection. It is intended for clinical and non-clinical staff from agencies in Massachusetts providing latent TB infection services. The following topics will be discussed:

- What is adherence support for latent TB infection?
- Why is adherence support important?
- What key considerations should I know to manage adherence support for latent TB infection?
- How to communicate with individuals about adherence support?
- What are best practices to support individuals to adhere to treatment for latent TB infection?
- What data considerations should I be aware of for providing adherence support to individuals on latent TB infection treatment?

What is adherence support for latent tuberculosis (TB) infection?

Adherence support refers to a health care team's activities to engage with an individual to encourage and support the individual to complete latent TB infection treatment. A separate *Fact Sheet on Component D: Treatment* summarizes information on latent TB infection treatment for agencies funded to provide integrated infectious disease services in Massachusetts. You can find additional resources on treatment in the *Resources Guide*.

Adherence support is a collaborative effort between the individual, the individual's personal support network (family, friends), the prescribing clinician, nurses and other members of the interdisciplinary care team (e.g. community health workers, case managers, support service providers), and pharmacists. Each person plays an important role in assisting the individual to adhere to, and ultimately complete, treatment for latent TB infection.

This Fact Sheet provides an overview of adherence support, including best practices, so agencies can plan appropriately for making adherence support part of their latent TB infection services. While it also provides information on common barriers and solutions to support adherence, providers and individuals seeking care may have experience with other barriers and solutions for adherence support. This Fact Sheet includes resources and strategies that can be used to implement adherence support services, or to adapt adherence support systems your program may already have in place for individuals taking treatment for other conditions such as HIV or hepatitis C.

Why is adherence support for latent TB infection treatment important?

- As long as TB germs are in the body, they can begin to multiply and cause disease
- Certain individuals are at especially high risk for progression to TB disease, including those:
  - With recent TB infection
  - With certain medical conditions
  - Taking medications that may alter immunity
- Completing treatment for latent TB infection can reduce the risk of TB disease by 90%
- Treating TB infection is much easier compared with treating TB disease and prevents spread of TB

Which individuals need adherence support?

- Anyone/everyone receiving latent TB infection treatment may experience adherence challenges
- Adherence challenges can present at any time, sometimes unexpectedly
- Some people may experience unique challenges that require special consideration:
  - Persons experiencing homelessness
  - Persons experiencing substance use disorder
  - Children
  - Elderly individuals
  - Persons born outside the U.S.
  - Migrant workers

Who is key to supporting adherence?

- Everyone
  - Provider
  - Nurses
  - Community health workers / Peer educators
  - Pharmacist
  - Patient
  - Patient's support network

What are some common barriers to adherence?

- Inconvenient location or hours of operation of the clinic or agency providing services
- Availability of transportation to services
- Linguistic and cultural competence of clinic/agency
- Stigma surrounding TB
- Health insurance eligibility/coverage
- Duration of treatment
- Side effects
- Health literacy about latent TB infection
- Costs associated with receiving services (transportation, childcare, time away from work)

Regimen choice and impact on adherence

- Short-course regimens are generally easier for individuals to complete
  - Isoniazid + rifapentine (3HP) once weekly for 3 months
  - Rifampin daily for 4 months (4R)
- CDC has developed a Medication Tracker and Symptom Checklist for each of the short-course regimens (3HP, 4R)
- With support, patients can also successfully complete the longer regimen -- 9 months Isoniazid (9H)

Administration of medication: Directly Observed Therapy (DOT)

- DOT requires a trained health worker to observe a person taking medication(s)
  - Ensures the person is taking medication(s) as prescribed
  - Monitors for side effects
- Recommended for:
  - Intermittent regimens (e.g., 3HP)
  - Individuals who are at particularly high risk of progressing to TB disease (e.g., children)
- Consider for:
  - Individuals who frequently miss doses, appointments, or medication refills

Administration of medication: Self-administered therapy (SAT)

- Regularly discuss adherence support plans and identify strategies that will work for the individual
- Be non-judgmental – missing doses is normal
- Strategies to consider:
  - Keep medicine in one place so always know where it is
  - Take medication at the same time every day (after brushing teeth, before bed)
  - Use a pill box to keep organized
  - Use a calendar to check off days when medicine is taken
  - Ask a family member or friend to help with reminders and support
- Supportive check-ins between appointment can be helpful

Assessment of adherence challenges

- Each individual should be regularly assessed for adherence challenges
- When assessing adherence, consider:
  - Understanding of latent TB infection diagnosis
  - Stigma
  - General/specific concerns about taking medications
  - Daily routine
  - Accessibility issues
  - Psycho-social issues
- Based on challenges identified, help the individual choose a tailored support approach to address adherence

Follow-up visits

- MDPH recommends that all individuals receiving latent TB infection treatment have a **monthly** clinical assessment
  - Focus on patient safety, including review of side effects, and adherence
- Explore adherence through open-ended questions
  - Look to find joint solutions and adjustments if needed
- May include community health worker, or other members of a multidisciplinary care team, per your agency's protocols for adherence support

For more information:

- MDPH:
  - [Tuberculosis](#)
  - [Tuberculosis information for health care providers and public health professionals](#)
  - [Keep taking your TB medicine](#)
  - [TB information for your patients in English and other languages](#)
- CDC:
  - [Latent TB infection resources](#)
  - [Summary of U.S. Recommendations for Latent TB Infection Testing and Treatment in 2020](#)
  - [Treatment of Latent Tuberculosis Infection: Maximizing Adherence](#)
  - Medications trackers for [3HP](#) and [4R](#)
  - [Staying on Track with Tuberculosis Medicine](#)
- TA4SI:
  - [Latent TB Infection Components and Resources](#)

Questions?

Break

5 minutes!

Breakout rooms
Pre-process mapping

Breakout rooms

- Introductions
- Web-based interactive tool: Padlet
- Pre-process mapping for adherence support
- Discussion
- Case study

Wrap-up and next steps

- Post-session activity
  - Process map for risk assessment
  - Process map for testing
- Reminder to register for the last session!

Reporting and analysis
- Thursday 12/10 from 10-12pm

Thank you!

Contact us at
TA4SI@jsi.com