

Alberta TB Outbreak Reporting Form (AORF) Definitions and Instructions Specific to Tuberculosis

All outbreaks are reportable by **fastest means possible (FMP)** to Alberta Health and an Alberta Outbreak Report Form (AORF) **must** be submitted.

AORF Report Submission Timelines:

Section 1 – Initial Notification	Immediately – send AORF within 24 hours after opening the investigation.
Section 2 – Laboratory Confirmed Organism Identification	Pick “Tuberculosis” from the “non-enteric” pull down list.
Section 3 – Final Report	Submit within 2 days of closing the investigation. The final report may include additional corrections or changes in Sections 1 and 2.
Outbreak Summary	As soon as it is available (if applicable). In complex outbreaks it is expected this may take some time however, the summary should be submitted no later than 30 days after closing the outbreak investigation.

Outbreaks (EI#) where an AORF will not be submitted:

There are some instances where an EI# may be opened and it is known, or later known, that no AORF will be sent in to Alberta Health. Examples may be IGRA screening in a large group or outbreaks associated with travel to a location outside of Alberta*. Notification to the Alberta Health email (cd.data@gov.ab.ca) of the following is required:

- EI#
- Suspected or confirmed (if known) organism
- The reason why the EI is not being reported on an AORF (e.g., EI is for IGRA testing, EI is a travel-related outbreak).

* **NOTE:** *If a local outbreak occurs as a result of travel-associated cases/outbreak, THEN an AORF submission to Alberta Health is required.*

The following definitions are not intended to have legal interpretations. They provide a short explanation of the terms used or instructions of how to complete the form in order to maximize consistency with data collection.

Examples provided in this document are not all-inclusive. They are included to provide guidance to the person completing the form.

For the purpose of this document, any reference to ‘clients’ refers to: patients, students, childcare attendees, restaurant patrons, hotel guests and other individuals (other than site staff) relevant to the outbreak.

Please refer to disease specific case definitions in the [Alberta Public Health Notifiable Disease Management Guidelines](#) for identifying confirmed, probable and suspect cases.

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Outbreak Type		Diseases that should fall under Outbreak Type <i>The following are examples (not limited to):</i>
Enteric	Care Facility (Enteric)	<i>Escherichia coli</i> , Shigellosis, Hepatitis A, Cryptosporidiosis
	Non-Care Facility (Enteric)	
Non-Enteric	Care Facility (Respiratory)	Pertussis, Influenza, Pneumococcal Disease, Adenovirus
	Non-Care Facility (Respiratory)	
	Care Facility (Rash)	Measles, Enterovirus, Varicella (Chickenpox)
	Non-Care Facility (Rash)	
	Care Facility (Other)	Tuberculosis would fit under either one of these.
Non-Care Facility (Other)		

Care Facility: includes select populations who spend a significant amount of time in a common setting. (e.g., Acute Care, Facility Living (LTC), Supportive Living/Home Living, Correctional Facility, dormitory, school, childcare centre, homeless shelters, etc.).

Non-Care Facility: includes populations not categorized under Care Facility (e.g., community, community organization function, private dwelling, permitted/approved food establishment, personal services, restricted function, swimming pool, etc.).

Section 1 – Initial Notification	
EI# - Exposure Investigation Number	The unique exposure investigation (EI) number assigned by the Provincial Laboratory for Public Health (ProvLab) or by the Zone which is specific to the outbreak being reported.
Onset Date	The date that symptoms first appeared in the index case(s).
Date Investigation Opened	The date that the secondary case is identified
FNIHB Location Reporting	The First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) community in the Alberta Health Services (AHS) zone where the outbreak is occurring.
Date Reported to Alberta Health	The date the initial outbreak information was submitted to Alberta Health.
Primary Investigator	Name of primary contact for the outbreak in the AHS zone or with FNIHB.
Telephone Number	Phone number for the primary investigator in the AHS zone or with FNIHB.
Suspected Organism	Pick Tuberculosis from the Non-Enteric pull down list.
Outbreak Setting:	Check the appropriate box to select from the following options:
Acute Care Facility	Any acute care facility in the province. May be confined to a unit, floor or to the entire facility.
Child Care Facility	Site where care is provided for children (e.g., daycare centre, family day-home, preschool, playschool). NOTE: This does not include residential care facilities for children under 18 years of age (refer to Facility Living)
Community	When outbreak is unrelated to a specific event or location (i.e., measles in the South zone).
Community Organization Function	An event or function, open to the general public (i.e. infectious TB case that attends a PowWow, varicella outbreak linked to a fundraising event).
Correctional Facility	Facilities for incarceration (e.g., prisons, remand centre, youth offender

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	centre).
Long-term Care Facility (Facility Living)	A care facility for individuals who have highly complex health needs and whose care cannot be safely provided in their own home, or in supportive living. Under the direction of a family physician, an onsite Registered Nurse supervises care with the support of Licensed Practical Nurses, Health Care Aides and other healthcare providers as appropriate. 24-hour nursing care is provided by nursing staff that are able to respond to client needs.
Permitted Food Establishment	A food establishment listed on a valid food handling permit issued under Part 1 of the <i>Food Regulation</i> and for the purposes of disease reporting includes temporary food establishments operating as special events and catered events.
Private Dwelling	A separate set of living quarters with a private entrance, including private dwellings used as group homes and foster homes.
Restricted Function	An event or function, not open to the general public. Attendance at these functions is generally by personal invitation only. (e.g., potlucks, silent auction, family reunions).
School (Post Secondary)	An institution that is attended beyond high school (e.g., college, university)
School (K-12)	A private or public primary educational institution. Grade: Provide the grade(s) of the ill student(s) unless the entire school is affected.
Shelter	A temporary residence or place of stay (e.g., overnight or longer) which seeks to protect vulnerable populations (e.g., homeless shelters, men’s or women’s shelters, Youth Emergency Center, Family Violence Emergency Shelter)
Supportive Living/ Home Living Site	<u>A Supportive Living site</u> (i.e., Assisted Living) provides a home-like setting where people can maintain control over their lives while also receiving the support they need through the provision of services such as 24-hour monitoring, emergency response, security, meals, housekeeping and life enrichment activities. The buildings are specifically designed with common areas and features to allow individuals to “age in place”. Publicly-funded personal care and health services are provided to supportive living residents based on assessed unmet needs depending on client needs. This would also include group homes. <u>A Home Living site</u> (i.e., Seniors Lodge) is a primary housing option for persons who are able to live independently and with minimal support services. Home Living is the housing option for persons who choose to and who are able to maintain active, healthy, independent living while remaining in their family home as long as possible. Basic Home Care services may be provided by or funded through AHS and/or the individual can purchase services from another agency.
Other	Any locations or events not identified on this list where an outbreak has occurred.
Municipality	The city(s), town(s), village(s) or summer village(s) in Alberta where cases linked to the outbreak are occurring.
Location (Facility Name)	Name of the facility in which the outbreak is occurring or is suspected of being associated with.

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	<p>Unit: The unit in the facility where the outbreak is occurring, if applicable.</p> <p>Floor: The floor in the facility on which the outbreak is occurring, if applicable.</p>																
Address	The street address of the Location (Facility) outbreak. If the street address is not known then use the mailing address (including postal box number if applicable).																
Other AHS Zones/FNIHB where cases have been identified	<p>Select all <u>other</u> AHS zones/FNIHB affected in the outbreak, aside from the AHS zone reporting/FNIHB location reporting the original outbreak (i.e., this AORF).</p> <p>For the following example, cases linked to an Edmonton outbreak were also reported in a FNIHB community in Calgary zone.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">Select all <u>other</u> AHS zones and/or FNIHB locations where cases have been identified:</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Calgary Zone</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> North Zone</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Calgary Zone</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in North Zone</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Central Zone</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> South Zone</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Central Zone</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in South Zone</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Edmonton Zone</td> <td></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Edmonton Zone</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>NOTE: Do NOT check off Calgary Zone unless there were non-FNIHB cases in Calgary Zone. Edmonton zone is also not checked off because that is where the outbreak started/reported from.</p>	Select all <u>other</u> AHS zones and/or FNIHB locations where cases have been identified:				<input type="checkbox"/> Calgary Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> North Zone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Calgary Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in North Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> South Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Central Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in South Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Edmonton Zone		<input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Edmonton Zone	
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Is this outbreak part of a larger national or international outbreak?	The outbreak is part of a larger national or international outbreak investigation. If 'Yes', specify more details about the larger outbreak.																
Initial number of people ill	Not applicable for TB-Leave blank																
Initial Population at Risk	<p>The initial number of clients/residents/staff at risk.</p> <p>(a) Initial number of clients/residents.</p> <p>(b) Initial number of staff at risk (for outbreaks occurring in a public site/facility).</p> <p>(c) Sum total of (a) plus (b).</p> <p>NOTE: these are the initial numbers when the outbreak is first reported.</p>																
Section 2 Laboratory Confirmed Organism Identification -NOT applicable for TB (leave blank)																	
Primary Organism Identified:	Pick TB from the "non-enteric" drop down list																
Section 3 – Final Report																	
Species	Strain differentiation, if applicable. This field includes all forms of differentiation (e.g., RFLP number, MIRA).																
Onset Date of Last Case	The date that symptoms appeared in the last case reported for the outbreak.																
Date Investigation Closed	The date the investigation was completed.																
Other AHS Zones/FNIHB where cases have been identified	<p>All other AHS zones/FNIHB locations affected in the outbreak, aside from the AHS zone/FNIHB location reporting the original outbreak (i.e. this AORF).</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">Select all <u>other</u> AHS zones and/or FNIHB locations where cases have been identified:</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Calgary Zone</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> North Zone</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Calgary Zone</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in North Zone</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Central Zone</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South Zone</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Central Zone</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in South Zone</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Edmonton Zone</td> <td></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Edmonton Zone</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>NOTE: Continuing with the Initial Summary example, cases linked to the Edmonton outbreak were also reported in a FNIHB community in Calgary zone and then additionally in AHS South Zone. Again, do NOT check off AHS Calgary unless there were non-FNIHB cases in Calgary Zone.</p>	Select all <u>other</u> AHS zones and/or FNIHB locations where cases have been identified:				<input type="checkbox"/> Calgary Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> North Zone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Calgary Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in North Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Zone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Central Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in South Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Edmonton Zone		<input type="checkbox"/> FNIHB community in Edmonton Zone	
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Is this outbreak part of a larger national or international outbreak?	The outbreak is part of a larger national or international outbreak investigation. If 'Yes', list all other locations identified, <u>including</u> the locations identified on the initial notification under Location (Facility Name) in Section 1.
The environmental questions below are applicable ONLY if there is a food/animal source that is suspected.	
Is the source of the outbreak likely environmental?	Indicate Yes, <i>only</i> if source is (suspected) from food/animal. Environmental source refers to a non-person source such as a food, water, or animal source.
If Yes, what is the environmental source?	Complete this section only if the source of the outbreak is considered environmental. Indicate the environmental source as appropriate.
Food (Human)	Any substance, including ice, intended for use in whole or in part for human consumption, but does not include a drug, medication or a regulated health related product and, for the purpose of disease reporting, does not include drinking water.
Environmental source resolution	Check the appropriate box to indicate the status of the source, as appropriate. Indicate: Confirmed —when there is laboratory confirmation of the source. Probable —when the environmental source is suspected but not laboratory confirmed (i.e., either no specimens taken OR all source samples test negative).
Total Population at Risk	The total population at risk: (a) Total number of clients/residents at risk. (b) Total number of staff at risk (for outbreaks occurring in a public site/facility). (c) Sum total of (a) plus (b). <i>NOTE: this number may or may not be different from what was reported on the initial notification.</i>
Final # ill (confirmed + probable + suspect)	Not applicable for TB. Leave blank.
# Colonized (ARO Only)	Not applicable for TB. Leave blank.
Adequately Immunized* Prior to Onset	Not applicable for TB. Leave blank.
Final # of Cases	The total number of cases for the outbreak: (a) Total number of laboratory confirmed cases.(=positive culture and matching DNA fingerprint) (b) Total number of probable cases.(=those that are epi-linked to index case without culture confirmation) (c) Sum total of (a) plus (b) will equal TOTAL number of those treated.
Final # Fatal Cases	Means contributed to/and or caused death. Taken from death certificate or reviewed with a TB physician.
Final # Hospitalized	The final number of cases hospitalized as a result of the outbreak.
Outbreak Summary / Comments	Provide a summary of any actions that may be relevant to the investigation of the outbreak. Some examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A DESCRIPTION of the outbreak, including characteristics, unusual presentations, patterns or scope. • A list of KEY COMMUNICATIONS that were initiated such as with

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	<p>Alberta Health, CNPHI alerts, zonal alerts to the public including media, physician notifications and teleconferences with other zones/provincial/federal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A SUMMARY of PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIONS taken and other characteristics such as severity, source case drug resistance, source immigration status, environmental factors.• LESSONS LEARNED: The level of detail of the summary corresponds to how unusual, unique or large the outbreak is or its level of public health significance. More information may be requested by Alberta Health depending on the outbreak.
Date Final Report Submitted to Alberta Health	The date when the final report is submitted to Alberta Health (For CDOM users: the date emailed, for FNIHB: the date faxed/emailed).