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Yorkshire and Humber and North East TB Control Board - Quarterly update

Issue 5, March 2017

Introduction

Welcome to issue five of the Yorkshire and Humber and North East TB Control Board quarterly update. This quarter we publish our update on 24th March - World TB Day - joining with other stakeholders and campaigners locally, nationwide and globally as part of concerted efforts to "Unite to End TB".

Despite good progress in addressing TB in all our areas, and falling incidence, the proportion of cases with social risk factors continues to rise whilst inequalities persist across the care pathway. This year, the World Health Organisation will place a special focus on uniting efforts to "Leave No One Behind", including actions to address stigma, discrimination, and marginalization and to overcome barriers to access care.

In this issue, we bring you news and reports on various activities at Board and national level, as well as events happening around the country and region-wide contributing to delivery of the **Collaborative TB Strategy for England 2015-2020**.

National Highlights

TB in England

The number of cases of TB in England has declined by 30% over the last 4 years. There were 5,758 confirmed cases in England in 2015 compared to 8,280 in 2011, however England has one of the highest rates of TB in Western Europe. PHE and NHS England, working with many local and national partners, aim to continue this decrease by actively implementing the Collaborative TB Strategy for England. This will contribute to the World Health Organisation's goal of eliminating TB as a public health problem by 2035.

There is significant regional and local variation in rates of TB in England, depending on population characteristics, socioeconomic factors and level of local risk. There is a clear trend of an increasing rate of TB with increasing deprivation. Certain groups are disproportionately affected by TB, including ethnic minorities, some migrant groups, and those people with a past or current social risk factor for TB (including homelessness, alcohol or drug misuse or imprisonment). TB is curable in virtually all

cases and can be effectively treated provided cases are found early and patients complete at least 6-months course of antibiotic treatment.

Underserved populations resource

In January 2017 Public Health England published the USP resource: "*Tackling Tuberculosis in underserved population: a resource for TB control boards and their partners*". The resource is a living document to help improve our understanding of health needs among underserved populations, and provides exemplars of good practice across the country that could be used to improve outcomes in this population. The TB Control Board is currently looking at how best to use the resource in the context of Yorkshire and Humber and the North East, at a time when the proportion of cases of complex TB and those with social risk factors is increasing. The resource can be accessed [here](#).

TB Control Board highlights

2015 Annual Reviews

We are pleased to publish annual reviews from both Yorkshire and Humber and the North East today. Produced by Field Epidemiology Services within PHE, and examining 2015 data, these reports describe the recent epidemiology of TB in our areas, identifying trends, areas of high burden of disease, and high risk populations.

The reports show that overall the incidence of TB in Yorkshire and Humber and the North East continues to fall, with 440 cases of TB reported in Yorkshire and the Humber during 2015 (incidence rate of 8.2 per 100,000) and 129 cases in the North East during 2015 (incidence rate of 4.9 per 100,000). Whilst this is encouraging, in Yorkshire and Humber the incidence rate of TB in UK born children, the proportion of cases with social risk factors, and the proportion of cases with MDR-TB have all increased, which is a cause for concern. In the North East, the incidence in deprived areas is more than three times that in the least deprived areas, demonstrating that more needs to be done to tackle TB in underserved populations. The Control Board will be using the data from these reports to help drive priorities for the coming year. Further details can be obtained from yhfes@phe.gov.uk and fes.northeast@phe.gov.uk.

Local resource to support local implementation of NICE guideline 33

On 11th October 2016, the Control Board hosted an event to seek clarity on the main issues raised by NICE guideline 33 (NG33) on TB. The event was well attended, with over 100 participants from a range of backgrounds and geographical areas, and a keynote presentation from one of the co-chairs of the NICE TB Guideline Development Group. Following the event, the discussion points were used to further develop an implementation document produced by the Clinical Advisory and Paediatric Task and Finish groups, which was then further refined.

The resource provides a summary of the key discussion points from the October event, and makes recommendations for commissioners and providers on implementation of NG33 in the context of Yorkshire and Humber and the North East. The resource was signed off the TB Control Board in February 2017 and is attached to this update. It is also available on request from the programme manager John.Dusabe-Richards@phe.gov.uk

TB Control Board SharePoint site

We have developed a SharePoint site for the Control Board. This is a local resource hosting key documents, event reports, news, updates and diaries, with access by invitation for Control Board and task and finish group members, networks and MDTs. If you are part of these groups and have not received an invitation for access please contact John.Dusabe-Richards@phe.gov.uk. Other stakeholders can request access to certain areas of the site such as event reports, videos and other documents related to their engagement with the TB Control Board.

Latent TB workshop

On 8 March 2017 we hosted a one-day Latent TB Infection Workshop at the Clayton Hotel in Leeds. Objectives of this workshop included discussing:

- (1) An update on the national LTBI programme and examples of good practice
- (2) Updates and examples on indicator reporting from around the country
- (3) Progress and evaluation of the Yorkshire and the Humber LTBI programme and,
- (4) Local innovation for service delivery in Yorkshire and the Humber including the Leeds TB Champions, engaging primary care, LTBI data support and improving service uptake.

The workshop was well attended by local partners and there was representation from the national PHE/NHSE team. Results from the event evaluation will be disseminated to all attendees and published on the SharePoint site once finalised. Priorities identified will be taken forward by the LTBI task and finish group.

Workforce

The Workforce Task and Finish Group is pleased to welcome two new members this quarter. Nigel Clerk, TB Nurse in Middlesbrough, improves the representation of North East TB nurses on the group, and Nigel's involvement is especially welcome as Middlesbrough is one of the areas of higher TB prevalence in the North East. Steven Gadsby is a Health and Wellbeing Nurse from the Gateshead Evolve drug and alcohol service. Steven is helping the workforce group to consider how the wider TB workforce can be better engaged in the TB Control Board's work.

Andrea Gough (TB Nurse, Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust) and Chris Cartwright (Public Health Registrar) attended the "National TB Wider Workforce Conference: Ensuring Holistic TB Case Management" on 27th February to

present a local experience of managing complex MDR-TB patients with no recourse to public funds. The conference featured a number of presentations and discussions including those from housing providers/associations, the Citizens Advice Bureau, drug and alcohol services and third sector organisations.

Initial findings regarding the composition of the wider TB workforce were presented with a discussion around future training needs. Making connections and involving all relevant organisations in order to support patients with TB was a clear lesson of the day. It was also evident that local experiences and difficulties of supporting patients with no recourse to public funds or housing are mirrored nationally. Local leadership and resolution will remain important until these wider difficulties are addressed. For more details please contact andrea.gough@nhs.net or christopher.cartwright@nhs.net

Awareness Raising and Communications

The Awareness Raising and Communication subgroup has been considering how to build capacity to deliver awareness raising messages about TB to staff who work with individuals at risk of TB but are not health professionals. We have been considering training the trainer type approaches which have been used in other fields but recognise these need resources, so we are still discussing the best way to facilitate this.

The group was pleased to be involved in the planning of awareness raising activities on World TB Day, supporting press releases including updates and infographics with key messages that can be adapted by local areas going forward. We encourage our partners to use the press releases and social media to ensure messages about TB are sent and received by a range of providers and individuals in the Yorkshire and Humber and North East TB Control Board area. If you need further support please contact your communications teams or Ruth.Granger@sheffield.gcsx.gov.uk

Events

Tuberculosis Management and Control – 22 to 24 May 2017

A two and a half day advanced course in the principles of and practice of tuberculosis management and control in the UK for doctors, TB nurses and related non-medical scientists to be held at the Birmingham & Midland Institute in Central Birmingham.

Speakers include Dr John Innes, Dr Prith Venkatesan, Dr Grace Smith, Dr Philip Monk, Dr Martin Dedicoat, Miss Debbie Crisp and Ms Sarah Hackforth.

For further details and applications please contact Mrs Mary Mannion:

Telephone: 0121 424 2357

Email: mary.mannion@heartofengland.nhs.uk

Web: www.bcctraining.co.uk

Useful websites

Information	Organisation	Available from
Fingertips TB Strategy Monitoring Indicators	PHE	http://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/tb-monitoring
USP resource	PHE	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/592274/Tackling_TB_in_Under-Served_Populations_-_A_Resource_for_TBCBs_and_partners.pdf
NICE guidelines (NG33)	NICE	https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/NG33
Latent TB toolkit	TB Alert	http://www.tbalert.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/LatentTBToolkit_WEB.pdf
Online TB training	TB Alert	http://www.tbalert.org/health-professionals/primary-care-information-and-professional-development/
TB Specialist Nurse Resource Pack	TB Alert	http://www.tbalert.org/health-professionals/primary-care-information-and-professional-development/
Various information and resources for professionals & the public	TB Alert	http://www.thetruthabouttb.org/ & http://www.tbalert.org/
Various TB information and resources for professionals & the public	PHE	https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/tuberculosis-and-other-mycobacterial-diseases-diagnosis-screening-management-and-data
Latent TB leaflet for patients (available in 12 languages)	PHE	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/latent-tb-testing-and-treatment-leaflet
TB strategy	PHE and NHS England	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/collaborative-tuberculosis-strategy-for-england
Tuberculosis in England 2016 report (presenting data to end of 2015)	PHE	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tuberculosis-in-england-annual-report

Yorkshire & Humber & North East TB Control Board T&F Groups

Work stream	Chair
Awareness Raising and Communication	Ruth Granger, Sheffield
Clinical Advisory	Omar Pirzada, Sheffield
Commissioning and monitoring	Linda McGowan, NHS South and East CCG
LTBI	Helen McAuslane, PHE YH
MDR TB	Matt Day, PHE YH
Paediatrics	Fiona Shackley, Sheffield and Marieke Emonts, Newcastle
Workforce	Simon Howard, PHE NE

Yorkshire & Humber & North East TB Control Board support team

Chair:

Dr Renu Bindra, Consultant in Communicable Disease Control, PHE Yorkshire & the Humber

Co-chair:

Paul Davison, Deputy Director Health Protection, PHE North East

Programme manager:

John Dusabe-Richards, PHE Yorkshire and Humber

TB programme support/admin:

Janet Hargreaves, PHE Yorkshire and Humber

GP lead:

Dr Sandy Moffit, GP lead

TB nurse leads:

Cathy Mullarkey and Meg Goodrick (Yorkshire and the Humber)

Carole McLean (North East)

Advisory CCG for LTBI screening programme:

Greater Huddersfield

For more information about the work of the YHNE TBCB please contact the programme manager at John.Dusabe-Richards@phe.gov.uk