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Yorkshire and Humber and North East TB Control Board - Update

Issue 8, September 2018

Introduction

Welcome to issue eight of the Yorkshire and Humber and North East TB Control Board (YHNE TBCB) update. In addition to providing stakeholders with an update of the work taking place across Yorkshire and Humber and the North East in relation to TB, this issue will also focus on under-served populations and more specifically how we help those with no recourse to public funds (NRPF).

The **National TB Strategy** includes addressing TB in under-served populations as one of its ten priorities, supported by the **Tackling Tuberculosis in Under-Served Populations** resource.

TB disproportionately affects those who are socially and economically disadvantaged, including certain migrant groups, homeless people, and drug and alcohol users. In 2016, just over 10% of cases in Yorkshire and Humber, and 16% in the North East, had at least one documented social risk factor.

The national resource usefully documents the various initiatives that have been introduced to better address the needs of under-served populations. In Yorkshire and Humber work has been taking place to look at how to ensure those patients with NRPF are still identified and treated for TB.

Addressing the needs of under-served populations

Yorkshire and Humber work on patients with no money, no housing or NRPF

In recent years, Yorkshire and Humber has had a small number of TB cases which have proved extremely complex to manage and required significant input from a range of partners. In part this complexity is due to the lack of national guidance which clarifies the specific financial obligations of commissioners in respect of providing housing and other support costs for patients with NRPF.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidance for TB sets out general obligations of commissioners in respect of supporting community treatment:

*Multidisciplinary TB teams, commissioners, local authority housing lead officers and other social landlords, providers of hostel accommodation, hospital discharge teams, Public Health England and the Local Government Association **should work together to***

agree a process for identifying and providing accommodation for homeless people diagnosed with active pulmonary TB who are otherwise ineligible for state-funded accommodation...this includes people who are not sleeping rough but do not have access to housing or recourse to public funds¹

PHE Yorkshire and Humber is leading some specific work to address this issue, building on a 2016 narrative report on clinicians' experiences, and a subsequent economic analysis of three cases of MDR-TB in patients with NRPF that estimated the costs to the public sector. A policy document detailing the case for change has been created to help guide local discussion with local authorities and CCGs on the need for a pathway for these cases. We have used this to progress work to develop pathways in two local authority areas, taking into account recent lessons learned in Leeds. Talks are planned and underway to tailor pathways to existing local services in these areas, ultimately leading to a resource pack for use across the region.

Awareness raising in the North East: Empowering people and communities, Michelle Thompson, Lead TB Nurse Specialist and Fiona Cook, TB Nurse Specialist

The TB service responsible for Newcastle and North of the Tyne is a small team made up of two full time TB specialist nurses covering a large geographical area. Through patient feedback from clinics and an audit of patient cases, the service recently identified that patients had presented at GPs several times before being referred into the TB clinic for investigation. The service identified two gaps in its provision:

1. To deliver health promotion to the underserved area of Newcastle and North of the Tyne;
2. To deliver health promotion to GPs and multidisciplinary teams.

A more holistic approach was required to engage the population to address local diversity and, working with the local public health team, a range of settings were targeted including hostels, care homes, places of worship (mosques and temples), crisis centres and the Salvation Army. Funding was secured to carry out health screening at a local hostel and the team worked flexibly to access targeted clients.

In terms of delivering health promotion to GPs and wider multidisciplinary teams, services were approached within the catchment area to offer health promotion at their practice meetings. Presentations were well received, and meeting teams face to face proved beneficial as many of the recipients were unaware of the service.

In order to assess the impact of the initiative, the service audited the number of calls received from community services and members of the public over a 12-month period; to date there has been a 20% increase in calls seeking advice and referrals into the service. The initiative has reduced the time from presentation to diagnosis and referrals have been made easier with the development of a community and internal referral form.

¹ National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Guidance for Tuberculosis, NG 33, Available at <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng33>

The project was presented at the Newcastle Nursing and Midwifery conference in 2017 and was awarded for recognition of innovative practice and received a £1,000 to spend on further development of the service. To date the project is still ongoing and the team has been asked to speak at several internal and external events with the aim of empowering more people and communities regarding TB.



Michelle Thompson, Lead TB Nurse Specialist and Fiona Cook, Nurse Specialist on World TB Day and during a mosque visit

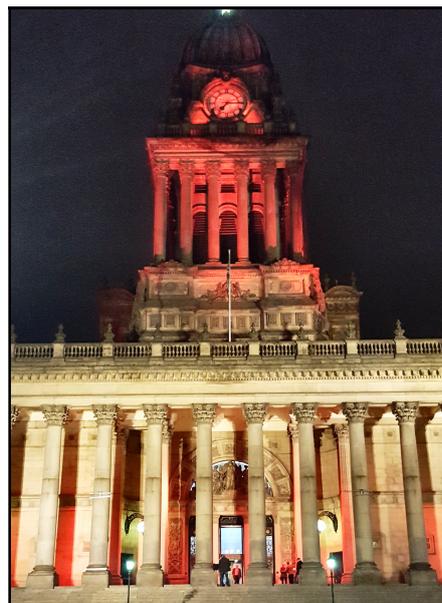
World TB Day, 24 March 2018

Several areas in Yorkshire and the Humber lit up local landmarks to contribute to the international 'Light up the World for TB' theme which took place across 24 countries.

Landmarks included City Hall, Fountains Park and City Railway Station in Bradford, the Civic Hall and Town Hall in Leeds (and bus shelters and telephone kiosks), Batley Town Hall in North Kirklees and Castle Hill monument in Greater Huddersfield.



Castle Hill monument



Leeds Town Hall

Following World TB Day, Refugee Week took place in June and further promotional work was done to raise the profile of the LTBI programme. The Kirklees LTBI team ran a stall at **Let's Unite 2018**, an annual community event attracting up to 6,000 people. The team spoke with hundreds of people directly and the stall was well-attended, particularly by families of children attracted to the various TB programme-related games created by our LTBI Support Officer, Helen Sykes.

The TB team took part in the combat archery event, which was intended to bring organisations together in an innovative way and certainly made the meeting memorable.

Response to the importance of LTBI testing was generally positive, with any negative comments providing useful insight for local engagement needs.



Families attending Let's Unite 2018



Some of our team!

The North East took a different approach on World TB Day. Targeted letters were sent to GPs to raise awareness about the unusually large proportion of TB cases in the North East who are white UK-born, particularly as these cases are associated with greater diagnostic delay. The letters also included contact details for GP's local TB teams. CCGs supported this work by distributing the letters. In addition, the same message was given in professional-facing videos made by the health protection team in-house which were shared on Twitter.



The videos featuring members of the health protection team (Dr Simon Howard and Michelle Henderson pictured) can be found on Twitter via these links:

- https://twitter.com/PHE_NorthEast/status/977222152821923845
- https://twitter.com/PHE_NorthEast/status/977215707116113924

Subgroup updates

North East Network

The North East TB network met on 24 April 2018. Andy Burkitt (PHE) gave a presentation on whole genome sequencing (WGS) in cluster investigations, Fiona Cook and Michelle Thompson (TB nurses, Newcastle) updated the group on community education work they've undertaken recently. Dr Jim MacFarlane (Consultant, Newcastle) chaired a series of discussions of complex cases presented by clinicians from around the region.

The network agreed a plan describing our aspirations for TB in the North East in 2020 and the work needed to reach these. The network also discussed the regional approach to Cohort Review and agreed to integrate this (including a WGS cluster detection element) into future North East TB Network meetings.

Michelle Henderson, one of PHE's Health Protection Nurses, is supporting some work on behalf of the North East TB Network to review the capacity and commissioning arrangements for North East TB Nurses. This is part of the TB Network's ambition to secure and build upon the existing TB workforce across the region.

The network will be meeting again on 20 November 2018 at Citygate in Newcastle.

Paediatrics

To improve our understanding of TB in children, the subgroup has produced three reports:

- TB in children and the factors associated with developing TB disease: Rapid review of the literature
- Epidemiology of active TB infections in 0-15-year olds in YH 2012-2016
- Case review of children aged 0-15 years diagnosed with active TB in YH in 2016: A discussion on the root causes and proposal of a root cause analysis framework

These reports are available on the **YNHE SharePoint site**. If you require permission to access the site please contact janet.hargreaves@phe.gov.uk

Following the January 2018 event which focussed on paediatric TB, the subgroup is now developing YHNE wide clinical guidance and will be setting up a more formal paediatric network.

LTBI

During 2017/18 Yorkshire and Humber carried out 1,938 tests as part of the nationally funded LTBI programme. There is now a reporting system in place to track activity across all six CCGs and the LTBI project manager is working closely with the national office and local teams to ensure systems are working effectively.

We were fortunate to win a bid for additional support from TB Alert for Sheffield, North Kirklees and Leeds CCGs to provide guidance on engagement and working with the third sector.

If you have any queries regarding LTBI please contact the LTBI project manager Adele.Mackin@greaterhuddersfieldccg.nhs.uk

Nurse forums

North East

The North East nurse forum continues to meet four times per year. To streamline the process, two of these meetings will now be held immediately prior to the six-monthly NE TB Network meetings. At least one meeting each year will be held in Sunderland.

The forum continues to provide peer support across the region and is engaging with the wider North East TB Network work on reviewing the capacity and commissioning arrangements for TB nurses in the North East.

Yorkshire and Humber

The last meeting took place in June and was attended by over 20 TB nursing colleagues. The group have now extended the invite for other professionals involved in TB including community nurses, healthcare assistants and other interested people. The forum's agenda always includes an educational element and this time the guest speaker was Dr Toby Capstick, Lead Respiratory Pharmacist, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Chair, UKCPA Respiratory Group who gave a useful update on drug interactions.

Key issues currently being looked at by the Forum include the availability of flag 4 data to identify new entrants for screening, the nursing competency framework, a regional workforce census and a joint induction programme for new nursing staff.

Other news

Cathy Mullarkey, lead TBCB nurse for Yorkshire and Humber is retiring



We are very sad that our lead TBCB nurse for Yorkshire and Humber is retiring this month. Cathy's expertise, knowledge and inclusive approach has been critical during the development and ongoing support of the TBCB and various networks. Prior to the TB Strategy Cathy had already been leading a regional TB nurse forum with colleagues and has been working on TB for many years. She is also our current chair of the nurse forum and we will miss her tremendously.

Cathy we are very grateful for all your support and input over the years and we hope you have lots of fun, happiness and adventures in your retirement!

Educational TB event, Hull 10 April 2018

An educational event in Hull took place to mark World TB Day on 24 March and the opening of a new infectious diseases ward at Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals (Castle Hill site). The ward has 6 negative pressure rooms to cater for TB and other respiratory infection patients.

There were several presentations from local and regional experts. If you would like to receive the slides from the day please let us know.

Yorkshire and Humber TB Clinical Network, Inaugural meeting 6 March 2018

The YHNE TBCB held the first meeting of the Yorkshire & Humber TB Clinical Network on 6 March 2018 in Leeds.

All doctors (adult, paediatric and microbiologists) involved in TB were invited to join the network chaired by Dr John Watson, Respiratory Physician, Leeds.

At the meeting it was agreed that the network should meet face-to-face annually. The network will also:

- Provide a forum for ongoing clinical peer support
- Share information on best practice, new and emerging technologies, clinical guidance and discussion of challenging cases
- Provide regular educational opportunities with CDP points
- Support the work programme of the YHNE TBCB

Agenda items for this meeting included:

- Consensus on role and aims of YH TB Clinical Network
- Priorities and work plan
- Case study presentations
- Educational session from Toby Capstick, Lead Respiratory Pharmacist, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Chair, UKCPA Respiratory Group

If you would like to join the network please email cathie.railton@phe.gov.uk

LTBI (non-programmatic) task and finish group (YH)

Whilst the national programme to implement LTBI testing and treatment for 16 to 35 year olds who have recently arrived in the UK from high incidence countries (>150 per 100,000) is well underway, in Yorkshire the TBCB want to ensure LTBI screening arrangements are in place for new migrants in Yorkshire and Humber irrespective of whether they are resident in an area receiving NHSE funding as per national guidance (high incidence countries are defined by NICE as >40 per 100,000). In addition to this consideration is also being given to provision of screening for under-served populations.

A scoping exercise has been undertaken to look at current service models and a public health registrar, Helen Christmas, is working with a task and finish group to develop regional commissioning guidelines.

Education and events

The London Advanced TB Course and European Advanced Clinical Tuberculosis Course, 12-14 November 2018

This annual course may be of interest to all grades of doctors including consultants, specialist trainees in respiratory medicine or infectious diseases, general practitioners, public health physicians, TB nurses and other non-medical health professionals working in TB.

Learning outcomes:

- Diagnostics updates
- Management Updates
- MDR TB
- Tackling complex cases
- Incident management
- Paediatrics and HIV aspects

For more information and to register online go to:

<https://www.regonline.co.uk/TBConference2018>

The 49th Union World Conference on Lung Health, 24 – 27 October 2018, The Hague, The Netherlands

The conference theme is '*Declaring Our Rights: Social and Political Solutions*', highlighting the need for a coordinated public health response driven by the human rights of each individual. Further details are available [here](#).

TB Nursing Care around the World Symposium 2018, 25 October 2018, The Hague, The Netherlands

To highlight the important role TB nurses play worldwide in the management of TB, a symposium side event is being run during the 49th Union World Conference on Lung Health. Further details are [here](#).

RCGP - TB in general practice e-module

This is a free e-module for healthcare professionals which can be accessed [here](#)

Institut Pasteur, TB on line course

This MOOC is aimed at health and public health professionals and can also be used as a thorough introduction for those who are new to the field. More information is available [here](#) however we are awaiting details on 2019 applications.

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine - Essentials of TB Epidemiology, Clinical Management & Control

This course is open to all health professionals who are looking for an update on TB with regards to new developments in approaches, strategies, tests, and treatments for TB. More details can be found [here](#)

Qiagen 2018 UK TB Educational Symposium, London, 19 October 2018

Qiagen's TB Educational Symposium is an annual event that aims to give participants an insight into the latest developments in TB control and prevention in the UK. The event is free of charge. More details are available at:

<https://go.qiagen.com/UKTBIInfo2018>

National updates

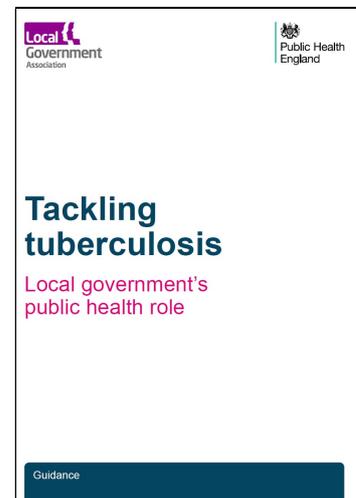
TB strategy

Various work is taking place to address the national priorities, further information can be found [here](#) and you can also subscribe to regular **TB strategy updates**.

Updated guidance for local governments on TB

In partnership with PHE, the Local Government Association has published guidance aimed at local authority staff regarding their role in tackling TB whether this is around identifying symptoms, advising professionals or responding to TB incidents and outbreaks.

The new guidance can be found [here](#)



British Association for Paediatric TB (BAPT)

The British Association for Paediatric TB is a multidisciplinary organisation to promote the health of children with LTBI and TB in the UK. Its objectives include advocating for equity of access and to foster co-operation, friendship and mutual support between all those involved in the care of children with TB. They are currently carrying out a national survey of paediatric TB practices in the UK to describe UK current practice in the care of children being investigated or treated for either latent or active TB. It covers aspects of service and clinic organisation as well as how patients are currently managed.

The results of the survey will be widely shared to help improve the care of children with TB. It will help BAPT understand where there is a need for developing clinical guidelines or needs for further research. It will also help regional TB Control Boards and the National TB Office in improving services for children.

If you would like further details please email: contactbapt@gmail.com

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
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 2017 report (presenting data to end of 2016)	PHE	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tuberculosis-in-england-annual-report

TB Control Board SharePoint site

The YHNE SharePoint site is a local resource hosting key documents, event reports, news, updates and diaries. If you would like access to this please contact: janet.hargreaves@phe.gov.uk

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:

Cathie Railton, PHE Yorkshire and Humber

LTBI project manager:

Adele Mackin, Greater Huddersfield CCG

TB programme support/admin:

Janet Hargreaves, PHE Yorkshire and Humber

Ruth Carter, PHE North

GP lead:

Dr Sandy Moffit, GP lead

TB nurse leads:

Cathy Mullarkey and Meg Goodrick (Yorkshire and the Humber)

Carole Maclean (North East)

Advisory CCG for LTBI screening programme:

North Kirklees

For more information about the work of the YHNE TBCB please contact the programme manager at cathie.railton@phe.gov.uk