BACKGROUND

• The TB-HIV link was clearly established in the United States 35 years ago
• Tuberculosis is the most common opportunistic infection among people living with HIV/AIDS (55%
• The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Programs comprise of 50 states, 536 Ryan White Part A Programs (Metropolitan Areas and Transitional Grant Areas) and 54 Part B Programs (States and Territories) on TB screening practices among Ryan White clients
• Routine tuberculosis screening among PLWHA is a priority as TB is the most common opportunistic infection among people living with HIV/AIDS

OBJECTIVES

• Evaluate current policies and recommendations in the US regarding TB screening among persons with HIV
• Assess TB screening practices among persons with HIV in the US
• Inform evidence-based decision making in improving TB-HIV surveillance in future

METHODS

• Reviewed Federal and State HIV and TB guidelines (including program manuals, reference guides, state laws, brochures, pamphlets, reports and other relevant documents) available online
• Concluded an online survey of all 52 Ryan White Part A Programs (Metropolitan Areas and Transitional Grant Areas) and 54 Part B Programs (States and Territories) on TB screening practices
• Conducted in-depth interviews with staff from TB Control, Surveillance and Ryan White Part B Program at the Arkansas Department of Health

RESULTS

Figure 1: Content of Survey: Burden of LTBI-HIV in United States (Population = 324 million)

Figure 2: Estimated HIV Coinfection in Persons Reported with TB, United States, 1993 - 2014

Figure 3: Estimated HIV Coinfection in Persons Reported with TB, United States, 1993 - 2014

Figure 4: Online survey questionnaire for Ryan White Part A and Part B programs regarding TB screening practices among Ryan White clients

Figure 5: TB-HIV Surveillance System in United States

Figure 6: Recommendation for TB Screening among USPHSA members in State Guidelines

Figure 7: Percentage of Ryan White Part A and Part B Programs that capture TB status in Surveillance Database

Figure 8: Frequency of TB screening practice among Ryan White Part A and Part B programs

Figure 9: Type of TB Screening Test Used in Ryan White Programs Part A and Part B Programs

Figure 10: Percentage of Ryan White Part A and Part B Programs that capture TB status in Surveillance Database

Figure 11: Recommendation for TB Screening among USPHSA members in State Guidelines

DISCUSSION

• Response rate to survey was 53.8% for Part A, 64.8% for Part B
• Current status of TB screening in HIV population in US is inadequate; a missed opportunity to accelerate pace of TB elimination
• Screening for LTBI among HIV population needs a champion from CDC and HRSA
• Expectation is that persons in the Ryan White Program have access to care and screening for TB would be routine, but this does not happen in 63% of Part A and 25% of Part B Programs
• Persons living with HIV that are linked to care remain a large challenge
• The documented trend in TB-HIV coinfection in US has substantially leveled off. Incremental gains will require new initiatives.

• Program collaboration and service coordination (PCCH) between TB and HIV key to success
• In September 2016, the US Department of Health and Human Services published recommendations (Grade B) for screening for LTBI in populations at increased risk. This activity is now reimbursable by health insurance without co-pay starting January 2018
• Arkansas time to TB diagnosis data illustrate two issues about TB-ADHS
• Did screening for LTBI vary based on program to screen for LTBI
• Program to screen for LTBI

SURVEY RESULTS BASED FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

• Does HRSA assess TB screening reports from any Ryan White Programs?
• How can we confront burden of HIV/LTBI in order to impact TB/AIDS in US when screening for LTBI remains low?
• Why this gap in HIV/LTBI surveillance?

RECOMMENDATION

• Streamline TB screening structure in the Ryan White Surveillance database
• 3. What will it take to close gaps in TB screening?

• Develop new guidelines for TB screening among Ryan White Programs in order to approach the 48,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in the US
• Evaluation of TB screening in HIV population

• Cleanly TB screening among the Ryan White Surveillance database
• 1. TB screening

• Establish requirement for TB screening among Ryan White Programs in order to approach the 48,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in the US
• Evaluation of TB screening in HIV population

• Population Questions

1. What proportion of HIV care was screened for TB?
2. What proportion of HIV care was screened for TB baseline; annual?
3. What will take to close gaps in TB screening?
4. What is the proportion of LTBI in the HIV population in US, annual?
5. How many TB cases can be prevented by improving LTBI cases identified?