



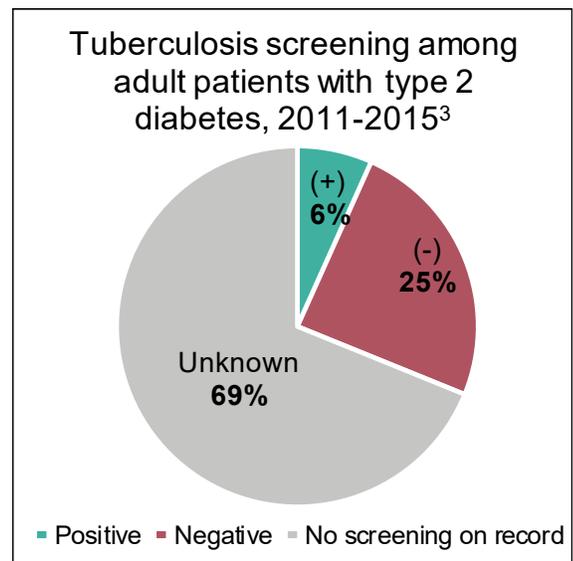
TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL AMONG AI/AN PATIENTS WITH DIABETES

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After two decades of annual decline in tuberculosis (TB) cases in the United States, progress towards TB elimination has stalled with a leveling of cases from 2013-2015. While a vast majority of these case are among foreign-born persons, American Indian and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) have among the highest rates of all U.S.-born persons. The 2015 TB rate for AI/ANs (6.8 cases per 100,000 population) was over 10 times higher than the rate for non-Hispanic whites (0.5 cases per 100,000).¹ Without targeting high risk groups, progress towards TB elimination will continue to falter.

Diabetes has long been known to be a risk factor for active TB and reactivation of latent TB.² The Indian Health Services' Standards of Care and Clinical Practice for patients with type 2 diabetes recommends screening all patients for TB *at least once* after diabetes diagnosis. The UIHI analyzed data on urban AI/ANs who received diabetes care at 31 Urban Indian Health Organizations over a five year period.

- **31%** of patients were documented as receiving a TB screening, however, 5% of these were outdated or date-unknown.
- **6%** of patients had screened positive for TB, but less than half of these patients had completed TB treatment.
- **69%** of patients did not have any record of having received TB screening, either before or after diabetes diagnosis.



Source: Diabetes Care and Outcomes Audit, 2011-2015

Diabetes care and management encompasses a long list of issues. Therefore, TB may not be a primary area of concern for the patient or the provider. However, TB prevention efforts, including timely diagnosis and treatment completion, are necessary for effective TB control in the U.S. This includes targeting groups disproportionately affected by the disease, such as AI/AN diabetes patients.

This and other findings are included in the [Urban Diabetes Care and Outcomes Summary Report, Audit Years 2011-2015](#).³

References

1. Salinas JL, et al. *Leveling of Tuberculosis Incidence--United States, 2013-2015*. MMWR, 2016. 65(11): p. 273-278.
2. The Lancet. *Diabetes and tuberculosis--a wake-up call*. The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology, 2014. 2(9): p. 677.
3. Urban Indian Health Institute, Seattle Indian Health Board. (2016). *Diabetes Care and Outcomes Audit Summary Report, Aggregate Results from Urban Indian Health Organizations, Audit Years 2011-2015*.