



# Proposed Amendments to 105 CMR 360.000: Tuberculosis Treatment Unit Standards for Admission, Treatment, and Discharge

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Public Health Council  
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# Background

- Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease caused by a bacterium called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacteria usually attack the lungs, but can attack any part of the body.
- It is estimated that tuberculosis has been present on Earth for over 20,000 years, but not discovered and named until 1882 by Dr. Robert Koch.
- Once the leading cause of death in the US, today, TB does not make the list of the top ten causes of death.
- A total of 9,421 TB cases were reported in the US in 2014 - over half of these cases were among foreign born persons.
- Cases of TB have been on the decline since 1992, but there is still a need for regulatory framework to inform treatment and care.
- In 2014, 199 cases (incidence rate 3.0 per 100,000 population) of active tuberculosis were reported to the Department of Public Health.
- This case rate is the same rate as in 2013, and the same case rate as the reported across the United States.

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<http://www.cdc.gov/tb/>

<http://www.news-medical.net/health/History-of-Tuberculosis.aspx>

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/282929.php>

<http://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/factsheets/statistics/tbtrends.htm>

-Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Infectious Disease, Division of Global Populations and Infectious Disease Prevention - Summary Tuberculosis Statistics for the Year 2014. <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/cdc/tb/summary-data-2014.pdf>

## Reasons to Amend

- 105 CMR 360 sets forth the standards of admission, treatment, and discharge of tuberculosis patients to and from the State Designated Tuberculosis Treatment Unit.
- This regulation was promulgated in 1956, and has not been updated in over 20 years.
- During that time, terminology and service systems have evolved.

# Proposed Amendments

- 105 CMR 360.001: Purpose, 105 CMR 360.002: Authority, 105 CMR 360.003: Citation
  - Sections are proposed for deletion to conform to formatting policy from the Office of the Secretary of State.
- 105 CMR 360.004: Definitions
  - Removal of the term Acid Fast Bacilli
  - Differentiation of the terms Active and Latent Tuberculosis
  - Updated definition of Adherence focused on agreement to follow a treatment plan
  - Description of Adherence Support
  - Update to terminology concerning Clinically Suspected Tuberculosis
  - Formalizing the current name of the Tuberculosis Program within the Bureau of Infectious Disease that administers the provisions of 105 CMR 360.000 (formerly named the Division of Tuberculosis Control).

## Proposed Amendments cont.

- Proposed amendments to sections 360.100: Designation, 360.200: Admissions, 360.300: Treatment Standards and 360.400: Discharge, represent practical language changes.
- The proposed amendments concerning admission, treatment standards and discharge do not fundamentally alter the responsibilities of the Tuberculosis Program, the Tuberculosis Treatment Unit or the local board of health

## Recommendation/Next Steps

- Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences has conducted a comprehensive review of 105 CMR 360.000: Tuberculosis Treatment Unit Standards for Admission, Treatment, and Discharge and recommends these proposed amendments.
- Following this presentation to the Public Health Council, a public hearing and comment period will be held.
- A summary of public comments and any changes to the proposed amendments will be presented at a subsequent meeting of the Public Health Council.