

TUBERCULOSIS SURVEILLANCE



As defined by the World Health Organization (WHO), Public Health Surveillance is the continuous, systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of health-related data needed for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health practice. Additionally, such surveillance has three main aspects:

- Serves as an early warning system for impending public health emergencies;
- Documents the impact of an intervention, or track progress towards specified goals; and
- Monitors and clarifies the epidemiology of health problems to allow priorities to be set and to inform public health policy and strategies (Retrieved from <http://www.who.int>, 2015).

When it is determined that an individual has active or suspect TB, the local health authorities provide case management and treatment services. They also conduct outbreak investigations, as needed.

There are several types of individuals that are required by Nevada law to report active or suspect TB cases to their local health authority (**NAC 441A.225-260**):

*Health Care Providers	*Person in charge of a blood bank
*Director or other person in charge of a medical facility or a correctional facility	*Parole Officer or Probation Officer
*Principal, Director or other person in charge of a school or child care facility;	*Registered pharmacist and intern pharmacist
*Any person who reasonably suspects or knows that another person has tuberculosis and knows that the other person is not receiving health care services from a health care provider	*Health insurer who requires or requests an applicant for a policy of life insurance to be subjected to any medical, clinical, or laboratory test that then produces evidence consistent with the presence of tuberculosis

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