



Sorting TB Risk in CNMI

Ngoc-Phuong Luu, MD, MHS
Medical Director of Public Health
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC)
September 13, 2017

Disclosures

Nothing to disclose



Learning Objectives

- Determine highest risk populations within your jurisdiction for TB control
- Develop a strategy for targeted latent TB screening
- Develop a cost-effective LTBI treatment regimen

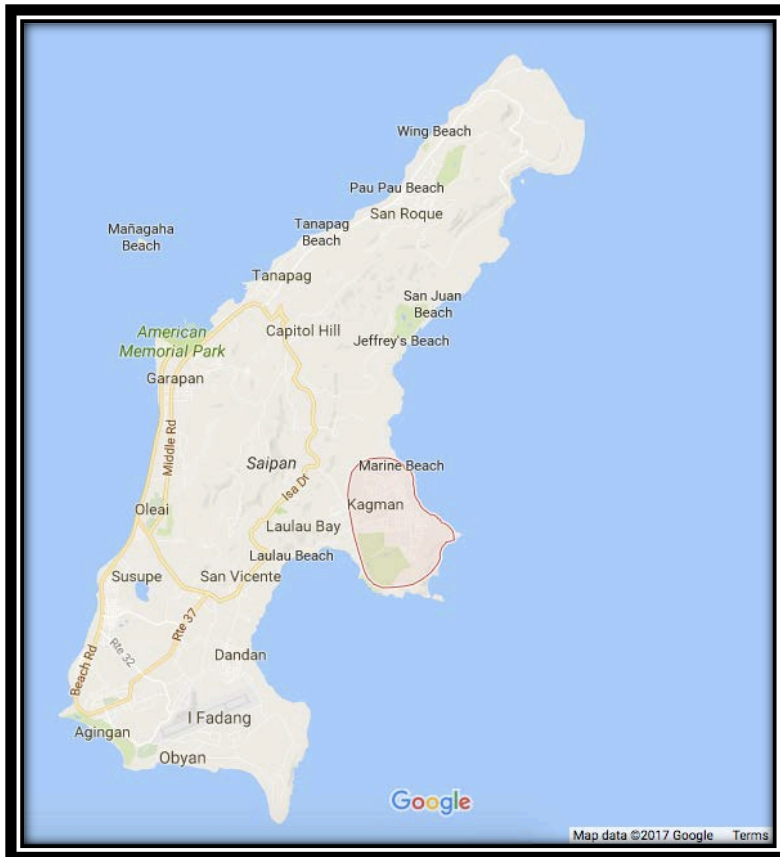


What we know...

- CDC estimates that there are 13 million in the US with latent TB
 - 5-10% will develop active TB if not treated (650K to 1.3 million people)
- 2014 – 66% of active TB cases in US were in foreign-born individuals
- Majority of US active TB cases come from:
 - Mexico, **Philippines**, Vietnam, India, **China**, Haiti, and Guatemala

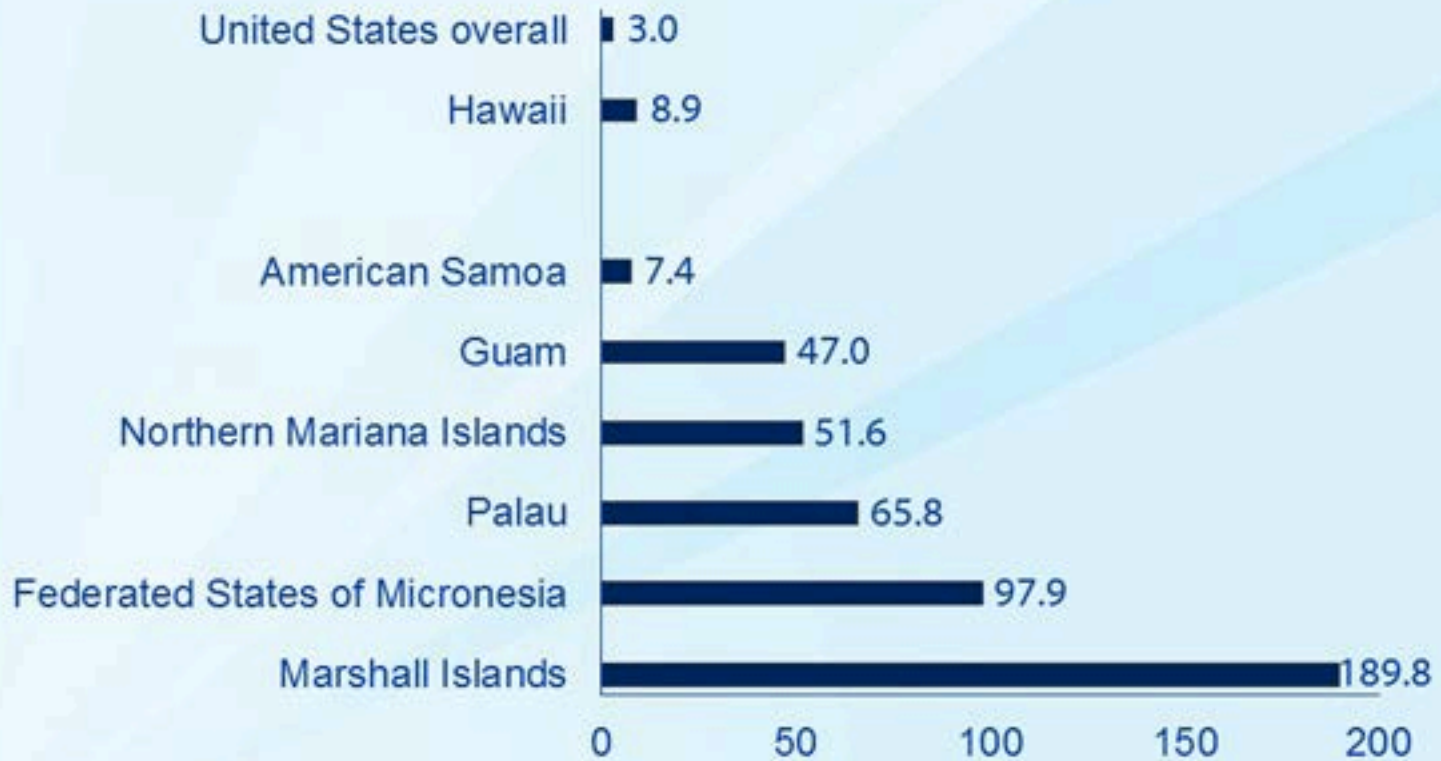


CNMI



- ~53,000 people per 2010 US Census
- Ethnicities
 - 40% Filipino
 - 32.7% Chamorro/Carolinian
 - 16.8% Other Asian (Chinese, Japanese, Korean)
 - 7.3% Other Pacific Islanders (FSM, Palauan)

TB Case Rates,* U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands, 2015



* Cases per 100,000 population; as of June 9, 2016.

Pacific Standards for Management of TB and DM



Standard 2: Every high-risk person with DM should be periodically screened for TB disease and TB infection

- Program may choose to screen all patients with DM for TB, or may choose to screen highest risk patients only
 - People with DM under age 50
 - People with poorly controlled DM (HgbA1c \geq 8.0%)

Pacific Standards for Management of TB and DM



- Persons with TB symptoms or TB disease should be referred to the TB Program for TB management
- A test for TB infection should be done at the time of DM diagnosis
- Screening should be repeated as often as the local TB epidemiology may warrant. Annual symptom screening for TB disease is reasonable. Screening for TB infection every 2-5 years is reasonable.

Burden of DM in CNMI

- 2016 NCD Hybrid Survey estimates that 18.7% adults in CNMI have a diagnosis of DM, using RBS 140 as the cut-off
- Heavily concentrated among Chamorro, Carolinian, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipino populations
- Among the 2017 active TB cases thus far:
 - 12 out of 27 (44%) have DM
 - Average HgbA1c 8.5%



2016 CNMI LTBI Cases

- 239 cases
 - 10 with listed full completion of the 9 months of isoniazid (4%)
 - Falsely low?
 - Not in database?
 - Lack of case management?
 - Too long duration?



2017 CNMI LTBI Cases

- January-March 2017
 - 24 cases
 - 3 out of the 24 (12.5%) noted full completion by August 2017
- April 2017-present
 - In early April, changed from INH x 9 months to RIF x 4 months, unless otherwise contraindicated for RIF
 - Instituted a case management system in which one Chest Clinic staff is assigned an LTBI case to follow-up and remind for monthly refills
 - 27 out of the 35 cases (77%) have been compliant with monthly refills



Estimated CNMI LTBI Incidence Rate

- 2016 – 239 cases
- Population per 2010 US Census of 53,000
- Incidence rate of LTBI (estimated): 450 per 100,000



LTBI Screening Strategies



- Program may choose to screen all patients with DM for TB
 - **6,732** adults in CNMI with DM with 18.7% as estimated DM prevalence – *not feasible*
- People with DM under age 50 – 30% of population – 15,900
 - **2,973** adults in CNMI age 50 and under with DM – *not feasible*
- People with poorly controlled DM (HgbA1c \geq 8.0%)
 - Assuming 50% of the 6,732 have HgbA1c $>8\%$, then **3,366** have poorly controlled DM – *not feasible*

LTBI Screening Strategies (continue)



- People with DM under age 50 and with poorly controlled DM (HgbA1c \geq 8.0%)
 - Assuming 18.7% DM prevalence
 - 2,973 is the DM population of those age 50 and under
 - Assuming 50% of have poorly controlled DM
 - Grand total: **1,486**

CNMI Current Reality

- Staffing available for case management
 - 1 RN
 - 2 nurse assistants
 - 1 program manager
- All staff already also assigned for case management to the current 27 cases of active TB
- We already do DM screening for all active TB patients
- How much of the 1,486 can the Chest Clinic staff handle?
- How much can CHCC handle in terms of drug, labs, and imaging costs?



Cost Effectiveness

- INH vs. RIF
 - INH costs \$0.84 per 300 mg pill
 - RIF costs \$0.15 per 600 mg pill
- INH x 9 months - \$40
- RIF x 4 months - \$100



CNMI LTBI Screening Proposal



- Screen patients who have a diagnosis of DM and is 50 years or younger who are seen at Kagman Community Health Clinic from now until December 31, 2017
 - Kagman has estimated 300 patients with DM, so assuming 50% have poor control, then approximately **150** patients qualify for TB screening
 - The above is in addition to contacts screening and screening of correctional facilities inmates
- Estimated cost: \$15,000 direct drug costs for treating 150 patients with RIF x 4 months
 - Vs. \$17,000 - direct cost to treat a case of drug-susceptible TB
 - Does not include costs of PPD testing, CXR imaging, or staffing costs

CNMI LTBI Screening Proposal



- In 2018
 - We will begin to screen patients with DM age 50 years and younger at Family Care Clinic (FCC)
 - Estimating at least 3000 patients at FCC with DM
 - 30% of 3000 is 900 patients age 50 and younger
 - 50% of 900 is **450 patients** with poorly controlled DM and 50 years and younger who qualifies for TB screening
- Estimated cost: \$45,000 direct drug costs for treating 450 patients with RIF x 4 months

CNMI LTBI Screening Proposal



- In 2019
 - Broaden to private clinics on Saipan (4 clinics)
- In 2020
 - Broaden to screen patients with DM on Tinian and Rota

CNMI LTBI Screening Proposal

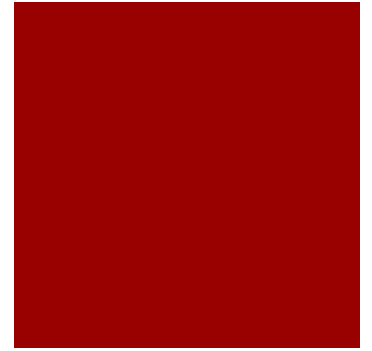


- All patients with LTBI will be offered RIF x 4 months unless contraindicated
- Any patients with high risk factors will first be seen and evaluated by a physician
- All patients with LTBI will be assigned to a Chest Clinic staff for monthly renewal follow-up

Thoughts?



Si Yu'us Ma'asi!



References

- CIA. *The World Factbook – Northern Mariana Islands*. https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/print_cq.html. Accessed: August, 27, 2017.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *LTBI – Targeted Testing*. <https://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/ltbi/targetedtesting.htm#identifyingTBDisease>. Accessed: August 27, 2017
- Dela Cruz, R. & Cash, H. (2016) *CNMI: Non-Communicable Disease & Risk Factor Hybrid Survey Report*. <http://i2io42u7ucg3bwn5b3l0fquc.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/CNMI-NCD-Survey-Report-FINAL-2017.pdf>. Accessed: August 27, 2017.
- TB Facts.Org. *TB in the United States – Elimination & Drug Resistance*. <https://www.tbfacts.org/tb-united-states/>. Accessed: August 27, 2017.