01.11.2017

FROM THE DESK OF:

Anthony P. Weiss, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, Upstate University Hospital



### **Tuberculosis Alert**

Applies to All Physicians

We have noticed incidence of Tuberculosis (TB) cases in our hospital and ambulatory care settings for the months of November and December. These cases resulted in exposures to both employees and other patients. Below is a breakdown of the review:

Positive TB Cases: 5

Number of at risk employees identified: 234

Number of patient exposures requiring notification and follow up by the DOH: 42

#### Take home points:

Out of the above 5 confirmed positive TB patients:

- 5 were known immigrants from high risk areas (Bosnia, Thailand, Nepal, and India)
- 2 were known to have a history of treatment for latent TB with current pulmonary symptoms.
- 2 had documentation looking for atypical mycobacterial infections.
- 0 were on isolation precautions throughout their diagnostic evaluation and treatment.

Please keep Tuberculosis in differential of infections or illnesses in patients who are coming from countries where TB is endemic, and place patient on appropriate respiratory isolation as soon as TB is suspected to prevent or reduce exposures.

Per policy, patients suspected of having or known to have infectious TB will be placed in a certified negative pressure room that is smoke tested daily when it contains a patient on airborne precautions.

Per policy, patients with signs or symptoms suggestive of TB are evaluated promptly to minimize the amount of time they are in the ambulatory care areas. Airborne precautions will be followed while the diagnostic evaluation is being conducted.

TB Alert Alert

ALERT-Highest priority emergency communication; warrants immediate action or attention by the recipient.

HIGH ADVISORY-High priority does not warrant immediate action but recipients should be aware.

ADVISORY-Provides very important information for a specific incident or situation that does not require immediate action.

UPDATES TO ALERTS AND ADVISORIES-Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

INFORMATIONAL MESSAGE - Provides timely information, important for review or serves as a reminder for an action that should be taken.

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#### Policies/Procedures:

**Upstate University Hospital TB Control Program** 

**Identification, Evaluation & Treatment of Patients Who Have TB** 

Management of Hospital Patients Who Have Confirmed or Suspected TB

Management of Patients Who May Have Active TB in Ambulatory Care Settings

Please contact us with any questions:

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Downtown Campus javaidw@upstate.edu

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Department of Infection Control

Downtown Campus: (315) 464-5258 Community Campus: (315) 492-5442

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### **Revised Announcement Regarding Renewal Applications**

**Applies to All Physicians** 

Starting January 2017, DEA will no longer send its second renewal notification by mail. Instead, an electronic reminder to renew will be sent to the email address associated with the DEA registration.

At this time, DEA will otherwise retain its current policy and procedures with respect to renewal and reinstatement of registration. This policy is as follows:

- If a renewal application is submitted in a timely manner prior to expiration, the registrant may continue operations, authorized by the registration, beyond the expiration date until final action is taken on the application.
- DEA allows the reinstatement of an expired registration for one calendar month after the
  expiration date. If the registration is not renewed within that calendar month, an application for
  a new DEA registration will be required.
- Regardless of whether a registration is reinstated within the calendar month after expiration, federal law prohibits the handling of controlled substances or List 1 chemicals for any period of time under an expired registration.

#### ARROW® VPS® VASCULAR POSITIONING SYSTEM

Applies to All Physicians

Just a heads up about a new device being used here. The **ARROW® VPS® VASCULAR POSITIONING SYSTEM** is a navigation and tip positioning system for insertion of PICCS (Peripherally Inserted Catheters)

The system uses a combination of intravascular EKG, intravascular Doppler ultrasound and an advanced algorithm to gather physiological information and calculate and communicate precise catheter tip location to user via the VPS Interface screen in real time

• It will provide valid documentation of correct tip positioning with a steady Blue Bullseye:

- The Blue Bullseye is a symbol the system uses that indicates the catheter tip is correct position (lower 1/3 of SVC-CAJ (Superior Vena Cava-Cavo-Atrial junction) during PICC placement
- The steady Blue Bullseye confirms correct placement and eliminates the need for post insertion Chest X ray
- o In the event a steady Blue Bullseye is not obtained, or if exclusions limit use of the device, a Chest x ray will be done to verify correct placement

DEA Update

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VPS Informational

01.11.2017

FROM THE DESK OF: Anthony P. Weiss, MD, Chief Medical Officer,

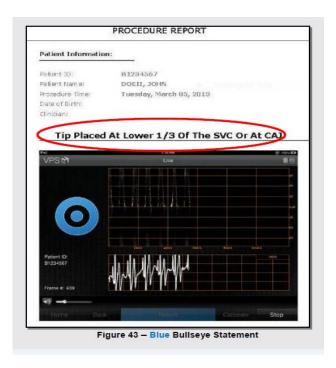
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs,
Upstate University Hospital



• The ARROW® VPS® is the only vascular navigation and positioning system that uses three technologies to consistently and precisely guide the clinician to the lower 1/3 of the SVC-CAJ, the ideal location for catheter tip placement.

\*This system will only be used by the PICC team when placing adult PICC's at bedside. Upon completion of the PICC a printed copy of the Blue Bulls eye verification will be printed and placed in the patient's paper chart and scanned into EPIC later. The order to use will be placed by the PICC team and if a chest Xray is needed (i.e. Bullseye not obtained) then the order for a CXR will be placed, as we historically have done. A screen shot of the 2 orders is attached as well as where in EPIC the VPS report can be accessed.

\*\*This does not require ANY change in how the physician is ordering a bedside PICC.





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### **Outstanding Physician Comments**

**Applies to All Physicians** 

Comments Informational Each week we receive written comments from our patients regarding the care we provide within the Hospital. Below are this week's comments from grateful patients receiving care on the units and clinics at Upstate:

AP-1 - Dr. Zhang, radiology staff impressed me.

Dr. Bhatta was as professional and knowledgeable as always.

**Emergency Department @ CC –** Dr. Andonian was wonderful. Kind, informative, interested, listened, great communicator.

**Inpatient** @ CC – Dr. Marquis was excellent. Followed my progress at least daily and addressed my needs quickly. Personable and answered all my questions thoughtfully. Very compassionate and skilled.

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