

DISCHARGE OF A SUSPECT OR CONFIRMED TUBERCULOSIS PATIENT

In order to protect the Public Health, as of January 01, 1994, State Health and Safety Code Section 121361 mandates that patients suspect for or confirmed with TB may not be discharged or transferred without prior Napa County Health Officer/TB Controller approval.

GOTCH Law for All Patients in Healthcare Facilities

All active or suspect TB patients being discharged from the hospital or transferred to another healthcare facility or congregate setting require prior approval by Napa County Health Officer/TB Controller. A Napa County Tuberculosis Report, Transfer and Discharge Plan (GOTCH Form) must be completed and approval obtained from the Napa County Health Officer/TB Controller prior to discharge or transfer. TB Control has 24 hours to review and approve a GOTCH form. Please submit an initial GOTCH as soon as a patient is considered a TB suspect or is confirmed to have TB. GOTCH forms are to be faxed to our confidential line: (707) 299-4479.

The provider should notify Napa County TB Control Staff 1-2 business days prior to anticipated discharge to have the provider's discharge criteria reviewed by the Napa County Health Officer/TB Controller.

[Napa County Tuberculosis Report, Transfer and Discharge Plan \(GOTCH Form\)](#)

Please provide the following documentation as soon as possible to facilitate discharge:

- Physician notes (including Emergency Department notes & Infectious Disease Consult notes-if any)
- Medication list (including non-TB medications)
- TB medication dosages
- Radiology (Chest X-ray reports, CT reports)
- Diagnostic testing for TB (i.e. including acid fast bacilli smears, cultures, molecular tests if available and pathology)
- Documented weight and creatinine

WEEKLY DISCHARGE NON-HOLIDAY

Providers are to fax the GOTCH Form including discharge plan to (707) 299-4479.

Upon receipt of the discharge plan, Napa County TB Control Staff will provide a response within 24 hours.

Napa County TB Control Staff will review the plan and inform provider of additional information or action needed prior to approving discharge.

Napa County TB Control Staff will make a home visit within 3 working days of notification, if needed, to determine if the environment is suitable for discharge. Staff will also plan around patients who are homeless or if a concern for non-compliance exists prior to seeking Health Officer's approval.

HOLIDAY AND WEEKEND DISCHARGE

There are no provisions at this time for either HOLIDAY or WEEKEND due to staffing limitations. If the discharge cannot be approved, the patient MUST be held until the next business day for appropriate arrangements to be made.

NOTE: Use of this form is for discharge planning only. To fulfill State requirements for disease reporting- a [TB-CMR Form](#) must be completed and submitted.