

Who am I?
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SPOT THE REFUGEE

Immigration Classifications

- Refugees
- Asylees
- Visa Holders
 - Immediate Relative and Family Sponsored
 - Employment-Based
 - Special Immigrants (SIV)
 - Travel
 - Medical
 - Business
 - Victims of Trafficking

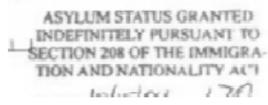


Refugees

- Are immigrants but have a refugee specific status
 - Makes them eligible for different benefits
- Are *forced* to leave their country of homeland and seek refuge in another country
- Refugees receive an overseas medical exam prior to coming to the United States.

Asylees

- Arrive to the U.S. by various ways (travel or work visas, etc.)
- Have a well founded fear of *returning* to their country of homeland and apply for asylum in the United States.
 - Eligible for the same benefits as refugees
- Do not receive an overseas medical exam unless they are derivative asylees.



Visa Holders/Immigrants

- *Choose* to come to the U.S. for various reasons
- Apply for visa status overseas (except victims of trafficking)
- In most cases visa holders receive an overseas medical exam prior to coming to the U.S.





**IMMIGRATION RELATED
MEDICAL CLASSIFICATIONS**

Class A Conditions

- Preclude individuals from being admitted to the U.S.
 - Active, infectious TB
 - Active Hansen's Disease
 - Untreated STDs
 - Mental illness associated with harmful behavior to self or others
- Once a class A condition is treated or the individual is granted a waiver applicants may be eligible for entry to the U.S.

Class B Conditions

- Are physical or mental conditions which may affect the resettlement process and/or the overall well being of the individual.
 - Chest x-ray abnormalities that may or may not be indicative of TB.
 - LTBI
 - Pregnancy
 - Other health conditions such as HTN, visual or hearing impairment
 - Mental illness
- Should be followed-up on soon after arrival.

TB Classified Conditions

- No TB Classification
 - Normal TB screening results
- Class A TB with waiver
 - All applicants who have TB disease and have been granted a waiver
 - Evaluated on a case by case basis and may be granted when there are extenuating circumstances
 - Most applicants with Class A TB will remain overseas until they have been treated



TB Classified Conditions (cont'd)

- Class B1 TB, Pulmonary
 - No Treatment
 - Findings suggestive of TB; smears and cultures are negative; not diagnosed with TB or can wait for treatment initiation
 - Completed Treatment
 - After diagnosis of PTB, individuals complete treatment with DOT prior to immigration

TB Classified Conditions (cont'd)

- Class B1 TB, Extrapulmonary
 - Evidence of extrapulmonary TB
- Class B2 TB, LTBI Evaluation
 - Positive skin test or IGRA, normal chest x-ray, no signs or symptoms of TB
- Class B3 TB, Contact Evaluation
 - Recent contacts of known TB cases

Recommendations

- If you ever receive a refugee or immigrant with a Class A TB Condition, contact TB Control or Newcomer Health for guidance
 - This will be a very RARE occurrence!



Recommendations (cont'd)

- Every refugee or immigrant with a Class B1 TB condition should receive:
 - TST or IGRA
 - IGRA preferable if 5 years of age or older
 - Chest x-ray
 - preferably with comparison to overseas film if they bring their overseas x-ray with them
 - Sputum Collection x3
- Do **NOT** begin treatment for LTBI until final culture results received

Recommendations (cont'd)

- Every refugee or immigrant with a Class B2 TB condition should receive:
 - TST or IGRA
 - IGRA preferable if 5 years of age or older
 - Chest x-ray if TST or IGRA positive
 - Sputum collection x3 if abnormal chest x-ray result or symptomatic
- Begin treatment for LTBI if TST or IGRA positive, normal x-ray and no symptoms if sputum not collected. If sputum is collected, do **NOT** begin treatment for LTBI until final culture results received.

Recommendations

- Every refugee or immigrant with a Class 3 TB condition should receive:
 - A repeat TST or IGRA a minimum of 10 weeks after contact broken with source case.
 - These individuals should have documentation which includes:
 - Size of the TST or IGRA response
 - Information about the source case
 - Name, Alien ID#
 - Relationship to the case
 - Type of TB
 - Additional testing (x-ray, sputum, etc) as indicated

Recommendations (cont'd)

- Repeat TSTs or IGRAs as indicated unless the individual has documentation of being treated for active TB
- It is acceptable to defer TST or IGRA testing if you can still see a positive TST reaction
- If individuals have documentation of a positive TST or IGRA, repeat testing is recommended



If you collect sputum, NEVER start treatment for LTBI until final cultures received.



TB Technical Instructions

- <http://www.cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth/pdf/tuberculosis-ti-2009.pdf>

Questions