



Arkansas Department of Health

Jenna Maturino RN

TB Program Nurse Consultant

What is our State Known for?



ARKANSAS



RAZORBACKS®



Arkansas TB Program Staff

- Dr. Naveen Patil
- Dr. Sandra Chai
- Dr. Leonard Mukasa, Chief Epidemiology Officer
- Jenna Maturino, TB Program Nurse Consultant
- Teresa Plummer, Pediatric TB Nurse Consultant
- Michelle Herndon, TB Administrative Analyst / Registry
- Susan Cooley, TB Program Manager



Where is our Health Department located?



Nurse Role

- I am the state TB nurse consultant for Arkansas, my role includes the following:
 - Preparing CXRs for physicians daily.
 - Reviewing patient charts before physician review.
 - Provide guidance to LHU (local health unit) staff.
 - Resource/guidance for external partners.
 - Assist with policy and procedures updates.
 - PRN patient care (phone calls, DOT, etc.).
 - Search for records (records back to the 50s).
 - Multitude of phone calls/emails from entire state (sometimes out of state).



State Numbers

	2021	2022
Active TB Reported	69	62
Pan susceptible TB	66	57
Extra-Pulmonary TB	9	7
MDR-TB	0	3
INH Resistance only	0	2
Rifampin Resistance only	0	3
Pediatric TB	12	5
TB Meningitis	1	0



Challenge

- High nursing turnover in local health units
 - Once trained/comfortable in position, transfer to a new position or leave organization all together.



Addressing Challenges

- TB Program staff in central office work together to assist nurses in state when short staffed or while new staff is getting trained
 - Ex: Central Region CM transferred to higher position. Central office staff covered duties as applicable (VDOT, training, etc.) until new CM hired and trained.



Questions?



Thank You For Your Time 😊

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