


## Investigating in Special Settings

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TB Contact Investigation (Pilot)  
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San Antonio, TX

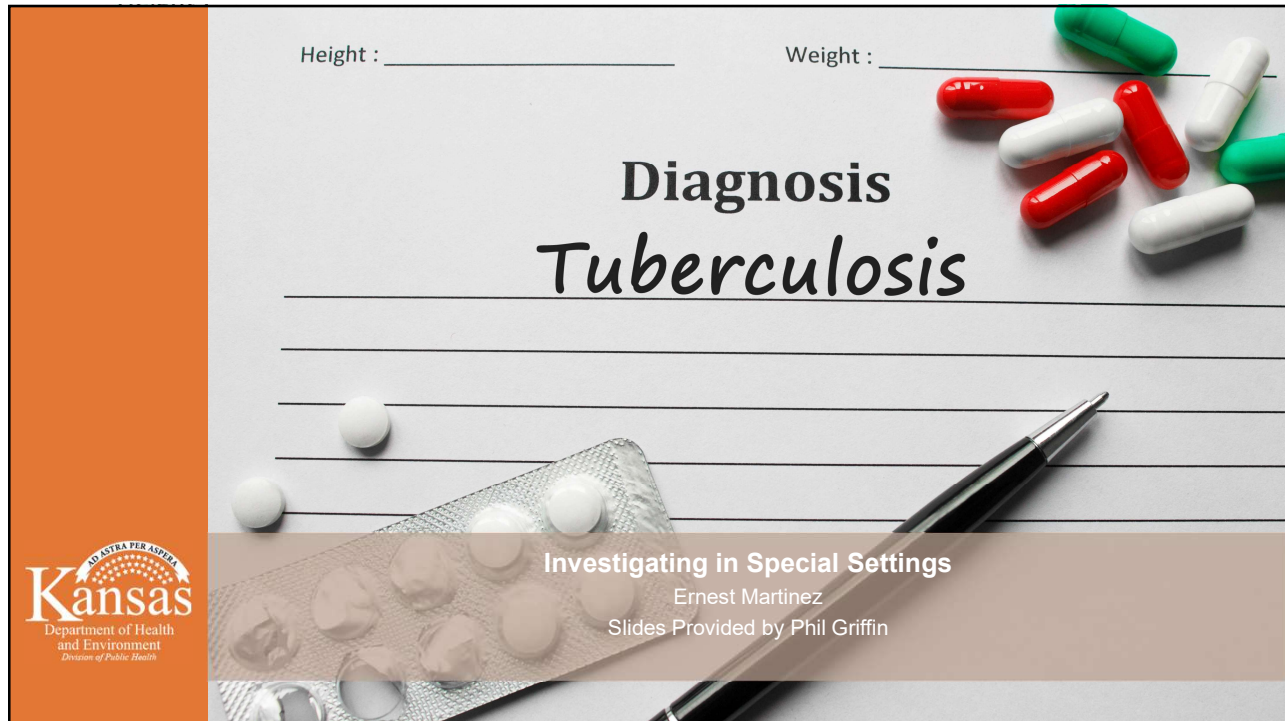
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**Ernest Martinez** has the following disclosures to make:

- No conflict of interests
- No relevant financial relationships with any commercial companies pertaining to this educational activity

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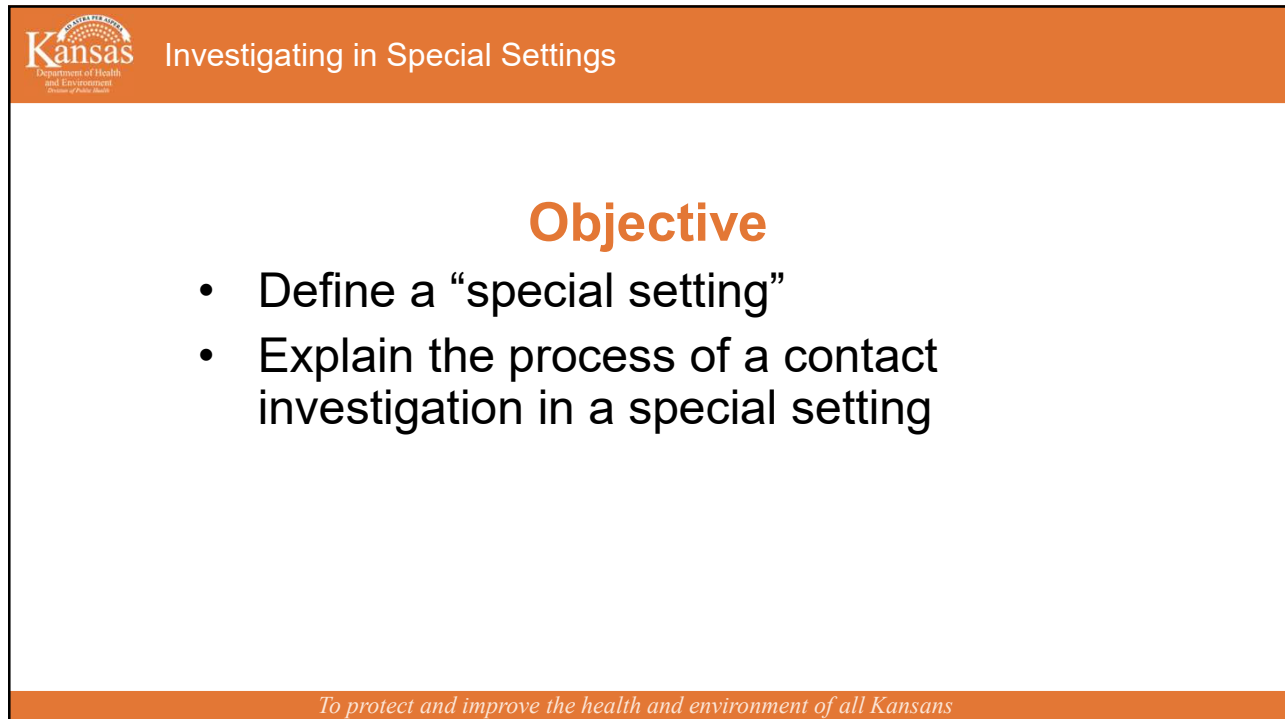
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# Diagnosis Tuberculosis

Investigating in Special Settings  
Ernest Martinez  
Slides Provided by Phil Griffin

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Department of Health  
and Environment  
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## Investigating in Special Settings

### Objective

- Define a “special setting”
- Explain the process of a contact investigation in a special setting

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## Investigating in Special Settings

### Special Settings

- Generally we are talking about congregate settings
- Settings where multiple individuals are likely to spend extended periods of time together in a confined area
- May or may not involve sleeping arrangements
- Frequently complicated by “worried well” situations

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## Investigating in Special Settings

### Congregate settings

- substantial numbers of contacts
- incomplete information regarding contact names and locations
- incomplete data for determining priorities
- difficulty in maintaining confidentiality
- collaboration with officials/administrators who are unfamiliar with TB
- legal implications
- media coverage

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## Investigating in Special Settings

### Special Considerations

- Many times special settings or congregate setting investigations require intense on-site involvement
- Confidentiality can be very difficult and should be constantly monitored to assure best practice
- Relationship building is CRUCIAL to success
- Requires “out of the box” approaches, strategies and thinking

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### Potential Learning

- Expect to include education
- Expect to develop new tools
- Expect to find new allies
- Expect to face opposition
- Expect the unexpected!!!

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## Investigating in Special Settings

### What are some of these settings?

- Correctional Facilities
- Workplaces
- Hospitals and Other Health Care Settings
- Schools
- Homeless facilities
- Transportation Modes
- Drug and Alcohol Usage Sites
- Special Sites Not Under Jurisdiction

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### Workplaces

- Many individuals spending many hours together
- Customer concerns
- Worried well
- Lack of TB understanding
- Interruption to profits
- Workers comp concerns
- Difficulty of information gathering

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### Hospitals and Other Health-Care Settings

- Medical egos
- Lack of understanding of TB
- Other patient concerns
- Reputation
- Regulatory concerns
- Baseline testing advantages

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### Schools

- Community panic
- Lack of transmission understanding
- Worried well
- Media
- Multiple collaborations
- Multi cultural
- Parental consents
- Source Case Investigations

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### Homeless Facilities

- Transient by nature
- Mental illness
- Poor historians
- Contact names
- Community panic
- Multi cultural
- Multiple other health care concerns
- Society throwaways

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### Transportation Modes

- Worried wells
- >8 hours exposure
- Relationships
- Education
- Often times too quickly jumped on
- Community impressions

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### Drug and Alcohol Usage Sites

- Social network models
- Lack of contact ID knowledge
- Close proximity
- Unwillingness to disclose
- HIV association to many
- Repetitive exposures
- Poor ventilation

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### Special Sites Not Under Jurisdiction

- Military Bases
- Diplomatic house/facilities
- Reservations
- Technical assistance
- Cooperation
- Relationship building

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## Investigating in Special Settings

### Correctional Facilities

- Special security issues
- Para-military environment
- Issues of Prisons vs Jails
- High risk individuals on many levels
- Highest concentration of “lawyers”
- Media concerns
- Overcrowded
- Great breeding grounds

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## Assigning Priorities To Contacts



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