TB Program Field Work During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Chicago's Experience

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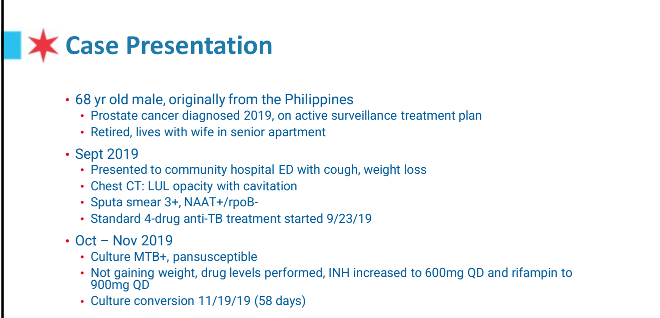
1



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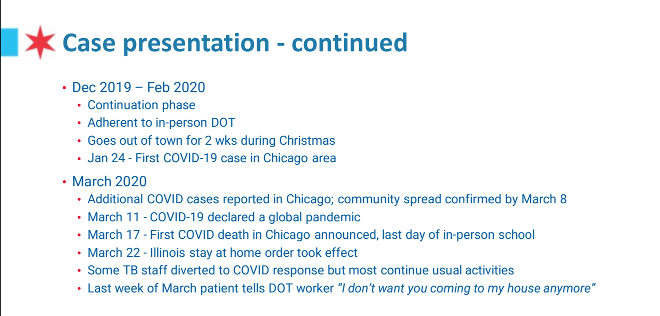

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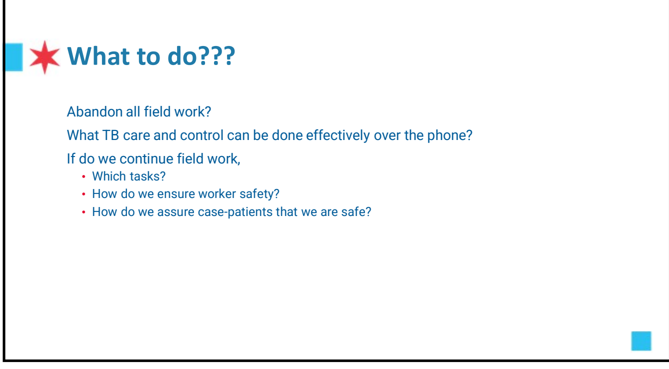

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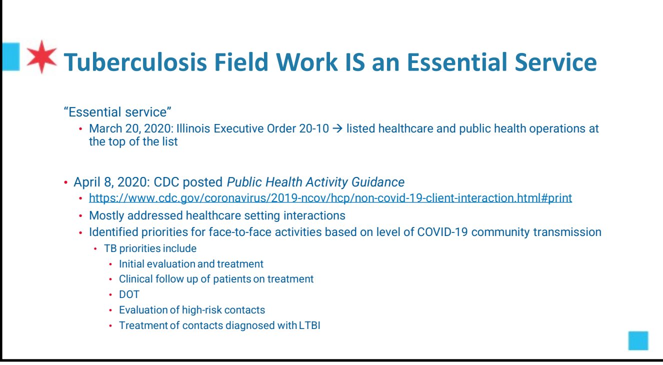

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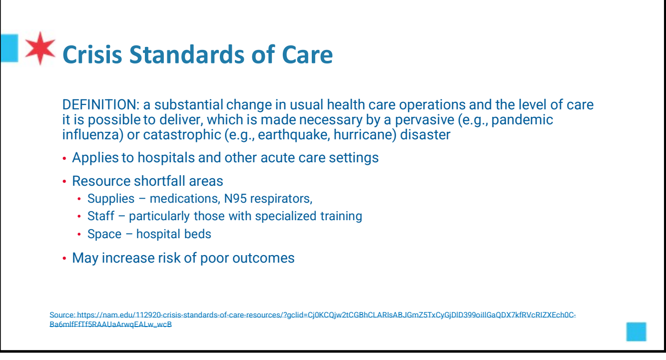

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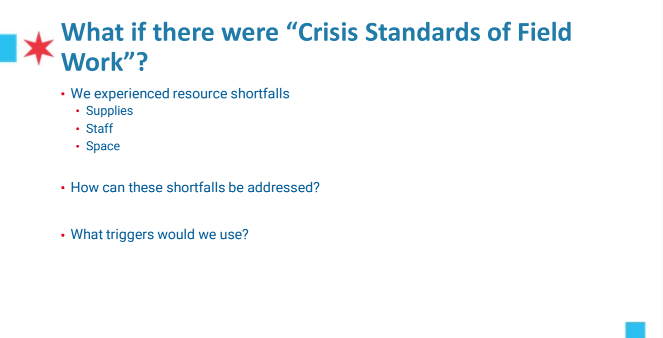

7

Adjustments to Our TB Program Field Work

SUPPLIES	STAFF	SPACE/TECHNOLOGY	ACTIVITIES
Locked up PPE; dispensed limited quantities at a time	Strictly enforced stay at home if ill policy	Increased distance between workstations	Rapid switch to video DOT. Usually required home visits to help people set up the app.
Procured PPE re-stock thru our Emergency Preparedness Program (unable to get thru usual vendor)	Created in-house schedule: cohorts of 3-4 workers, every third week in-house	Installed Plexiglas barriers	Home visits only for initial visit, med drop-off, sputa collection, assessment for adverse med effects
Formalized respirator re-use policy	Tried to stagger details to COVID work	Provided trainings on email encryption and remote access for voice mail and email	Pre-screen patients and family for COVID symptoms before entering the home
			Discontinued patient transports

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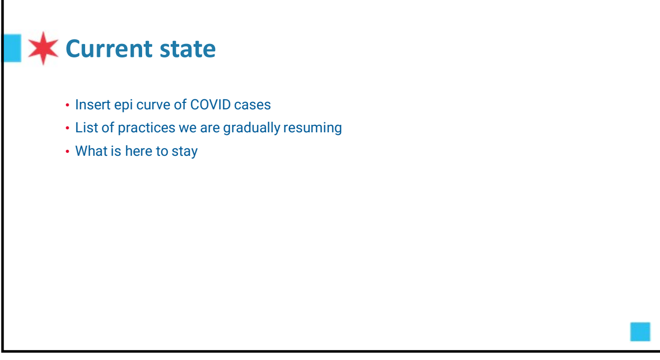

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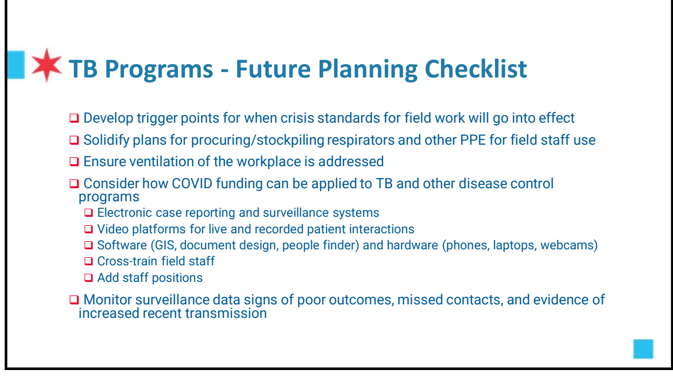

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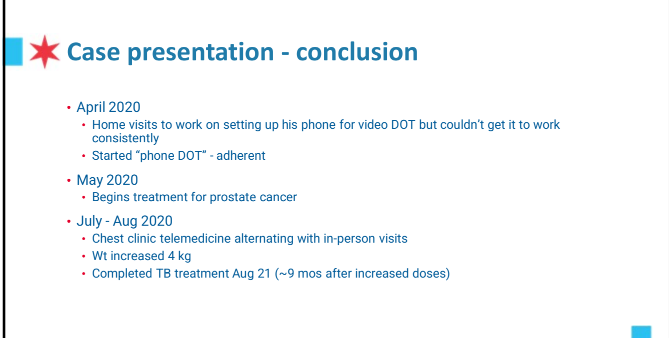

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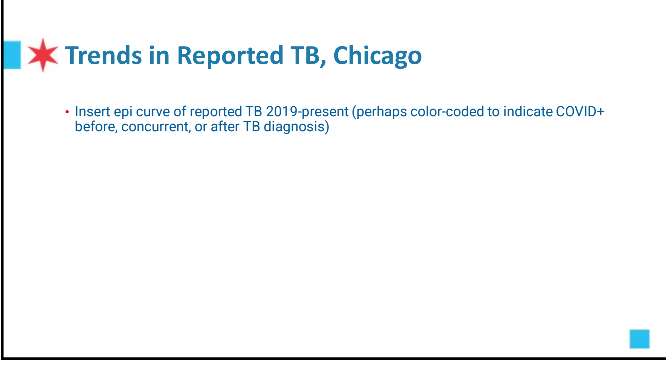

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13