Adherence to TB Evaluation and Treatment among Immigrants and Refugees -Arizona, 2015–2017

Amanda Swanson, MPH¹

¹Arizona Department of Health Services

Latent tuberculosis infection* (LTBI) affects approximately one-fourth of the world's population.

10% of those with LTBI will go on to develop TB disease, often within the first 5 years of infection.

The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) utilized Electronic Disease Notification (EDN) data to assess adherence and barriers to TB evaluation and treatment among class B individuals[†].

Only 21% of those diagnosed with LTBI completed treatment.

Only 60% of class B individuals had an evaluation initiated by the local county health department.

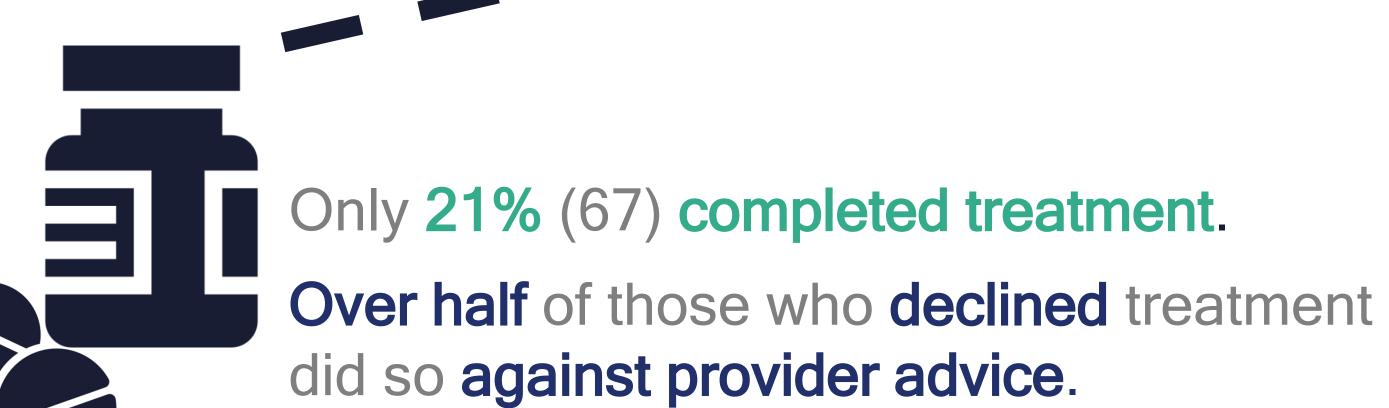
TB Class B individuals arriving in Arizona

Arizona received EDN alerts for 1,413 class B individuals during 2015–2017.

852 (60%) had an evaluation initiated by the local county health department.

314 were diagnosed with LTBI and referred for treatment.





Public health should:

- Work with partners, including immigrant and refugee resettlement agencies, to ensure that accurate contact information is available.
- Identify barriers, including potential cultural perceptions of risk, that may contribute to low adoption of LTBI treatment recommendations.

preventable TB disease cases may occur as a result of reactivation of LTBI.

