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**Region IV Public Health**  
Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum counties  
and Cowlitz Tribe

# Health Advisory

Please deliver a copy of the accompanying alert to each provider in your organization.

**Thank you**

**Questions regarding this alert may be  
directed to the office of:**

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**Health Officer**

Jennifer Vines, MD, MPH  
**Deputy Health Officer**

Clark County Public Health  
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**Please Distribute**

Categories of Health Alert messages:

**Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

**Health Advisory:** provides important information for specific incident for situation; may not require immediate action.

**Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.



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## HEALTH ADVISORY 7 July 2010

### **Pediatric Tuberculosis Outbreak**

The purpose of this advisory is to inform healthcare providers about an outbreak of tuberculosis in children who are members of a Moldovan church congregation in Clark County. The church does not have an official name, but is located in Camas, Washington. As of July 7, we are investigating two cases of active TB in children under age 5. What is unusual about this outbreak is that the children are US born, meaning that they acquired their infection in the United States, possibly in Clark County. As part of our investigation, we are working with affected families and the church congregation to identify additional infected children as well as any active adult cases that may be transmitting the infection locally.

In the meantime, healthcare providers seeing adults and children who are members of the congregation should consider active tuberculosis in their differential diagnosis if adult patients have any of the following symptoms: cough, especially cough > 3 weeks in duration; fatigue, hemoptysis, diminished appetite, weight loss, and night sweats and unexplained fever and chills. Symptoms in young children can be less specific, but can include cough, especially cough > 3 weeks in duration, and weight loss (failure to thrive). Compared to adults, children are more likely to have extrapulmonary tuberculosis, including tuberculosis meningitis and adenopathy.

For further information on tuberculosis, please refer to the CDC TB website at <http://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/guidelines>