

## Department of Health and Social Services

Division of Public Health Section of Epidemiology

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10/15/2020

Dear Provider:

Given the current demands of the COVID-19 pandemic response in Alaska, public health nurses in some regions no longer have the capacity to monitor and case manage patients with <u>latent tuberculosis</u>, *unless* it is in relation to an active TB case. In light of this, we are asking providers, whenever possible, to prescribe LTBI medications to their patients directly and to provide the appropriate monitoring and follow-up, rather than sending medication orders to the state TB program.

The Alaska TB Program and public health nursing will continue to provide medications, consultation, and case management for all patients with <u>active tuberculosis disease</u>. It is our hope that we will be able to expand our TB services again at some point in the future.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to the Alaska TB Program at 269-8000 with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your partnership and all the hard work you are doing.

Sincerely,

Michelle M. Rothoff, M.D.

State of Alaska TB Controller