

STATUS ADJUSTERS AND CIVIL SURGEONS

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November 21, 2024



TODAY'S PRESENTATION

- What is the role of a civil surgeon?
- Status adjustment
- Changes to the status adjuster process
- Local health department expectations and process
- Recommendations for local health districts
- Open discussion

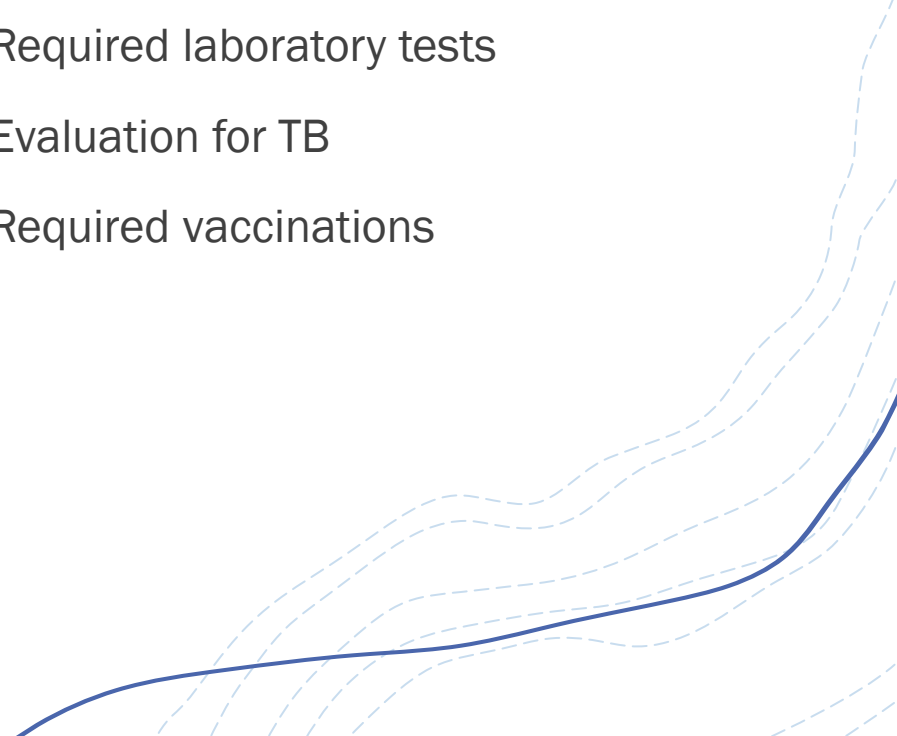


THE ROLE OF A CIVIL SURGEON

Who are they and what do they do?

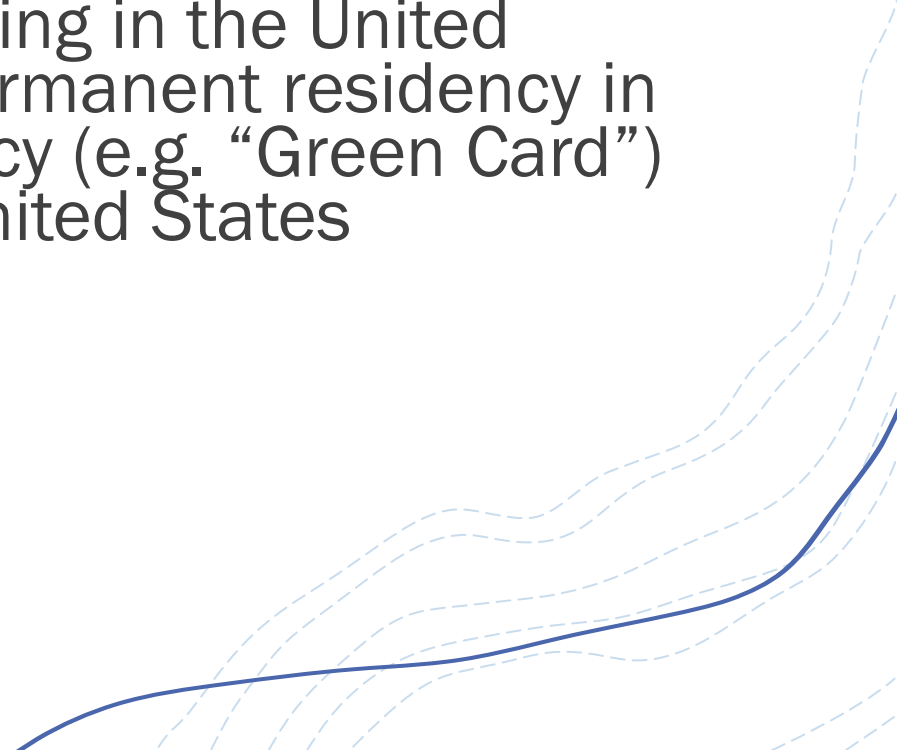
- Designated by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)
- Conduct medical evaluations of immigrants applying for certain visas, adjustment of status, or other immigration benefits
- Ensure immigrants are medically fit to enter the U.S. or remain in the U.S. as they become permanent residents, and do not pose a risk to public health

What do they provide?

- Physical examination
 - Review of patient medical history
 - Required laboratory tests
 - Evaluation for TB
 - Required vaccinations
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STATUS ADJUSTMENT

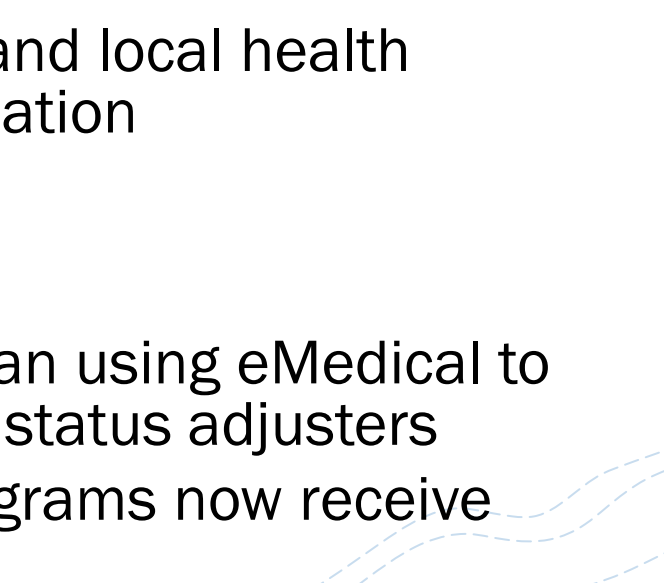
- The process by which any immigrant or refugee adjusts the immigration status assigned during their arrival to the United States to that of a lawful, permanent resident
 - Individuals currently residing in the United States may be granted permanent residency in the United States (e.g. “Green Card”) without having to leave United States
- 



STATUS ADJUSTMENT

- CDC uses the Electronic Disease Notification (EDN) System to capture overseas medical examination information for >500,000 immigrants and refugees
 - Notifications are provided to local health districts for all refugees and individuals with a tuberculosis classification on their overseas evaluation
 - “Typical process” followed by local health districts after receiving a notification in EDN (exact tasks vary by TB classification of client):
 - Health history and risk assessment
 - Additional evaluation varies and may include
 - Chest X-ray
 - IGRA test (as appropriate)
 - Sputum collection
- However, there are approximately 500,000 individuals who apply to adjust their immigration status after already living in the United States...
 - Results of physical exams required for the status adjustment process are also entered into EDN as part of a new process as of November 1, 2023

PROCESS CHANGE

- Old process
 - Civil Surgeon conducted screening for status adjuster and recorded exam results on the paper form I-693
 - Form mailed to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS)
 - No ability for CDC to provide notification to state and local health departments on status adjusters with TB classification
 - New process
 - Beginning November 1, 2023: Civil surgeons began using eMedical to enter the results of medical exams performed on status adjusters
 - State and local health department TB control programs now receive notifications and results
- 



WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THESE RESULTS?

- CDC and VDH TB program encourage health departments to follow up on all status adjusters with B2 TB classifications reported through EDN *as resources allow*
 - This is not an expectation!
- Health departments will also receive notification from the civil surgeons for B0 or B1 classifications and should follow up as determined by clinical judgement
- Completion of the EDN TB Follow-up form for any status adjusters for whom the health department has conducted a TB evaluation

WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE IN EDN?

New Alien	Visa Type	DOB	TB Class	Jurisdiction	Date of Arrival	Notification Date	Worksheet Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	STSADJ		B2	Fairfax HD VA	Dec 04, 2023	Dec 04, 2023	Not Started
<input type="checkbox"/>	STSADJ		B2	Fairfax HD VA	Dec 04, 2023	Dec 04, 2023	Not Started
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	R		None	Arlington HD VA	Dec 04, 2023	Dec 04, 2023	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	R		None	Arlington HD VA	Dec 04, 2023	Dec 04, 2023	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	R		None	Arlington HD VA	Dec 04, 2023	Dec 04, 2023	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	R		None	Arlington HD VA	Dec 04, 2023	Dec 04, 2023	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	R		None	Arlington HD VA	Dec 04, 2023	Dec 04, 2023	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	I		B1	Loudoun HD VA	Dec 03, 2023	Dec 04, 2023	Not Started

Electronic Disease Notification (EDN)

8/28/2024

Alien Information

Name: [Redacted] Data Entry Person: [Redacted]
 Arrival Date: 9/25/2023 Entering for Q-Station: CDC/NCID/DQ
 Notification Date: 1/1/0001 Officer in Charge: CDC OIC
 Alien Number: [Redacted]
 Date of Birth: 8/18/1978 **A** → This is a status adjuster applicant record. Medical information may be limited to TB data. Document list items may include a copy of USCIS Form I-693, chest x-ray images, and/or IGRA results.
 TB Classification: A
 Address
 Name in Care of:
 Address Line 1:
 Address Line 2:
 City State Zip:
 Phone:
 Alternate Phone:
 Email:

Current Alien

Alien # [Redacted]
 Alien Name [Redacted]
A # Status Adjuster
 Document List

EDN Forms

Alien Information
B I-693 Summary
 Worksheet

Electronic Disease Notification (EDN)

Help Resources

- EDN User Training & Videos
- System Documentation
- TB Worksheet Follow-up Guidance
- Data Dictionaries** (circled in red)
- Jurisdiction Transfer Protocol
- Archived Documents

EDN Helpdesk: 1-866-226-1617
 EDN Helpdesk Email: edn@cdc.gov

Electronic Disease Notification (EDN)

Data Dictionary

Data Dictionary for Data Download

9 Data Dictionary for I-693 Form ← **C**

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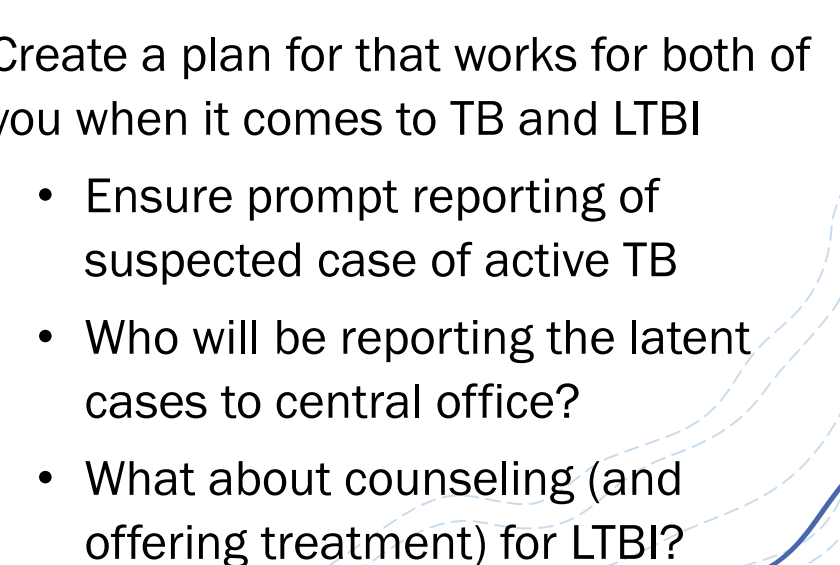


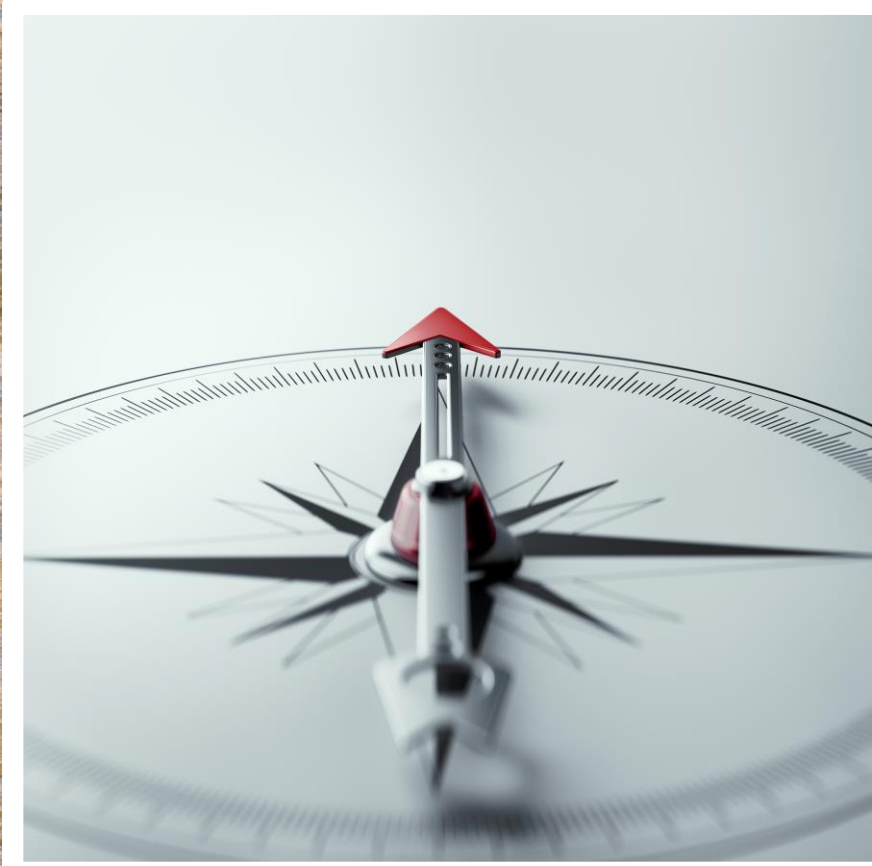
AREAS OF FOCUS (AKA “OUR ASK”)

Who/Where are the civil surgeons in your district?

- Identify and locate civil surgeons practicing in your local health district
- Strike up a conversation!
 - Do they treat for LTBI?
 - How do they report LTBI/active TB?

Create a plan of action to engage your civil surgeons

- Reach out to the civil surgeons in your area and forge a working relationship
 - Create a plan for that works for both of you when it comes to TB and LTBI
 - Ensure prompt reporting of suspected case of active TB
 - Who will be reporting the latent cases to central office?
 - What about counseling (and offering treatment) for LTBI?
- 



OPEN DISCUSSION

- What have you experienced in your local health district?
- What has worked or not worked when interacting with civil surgeons—especially for TB classified patients?