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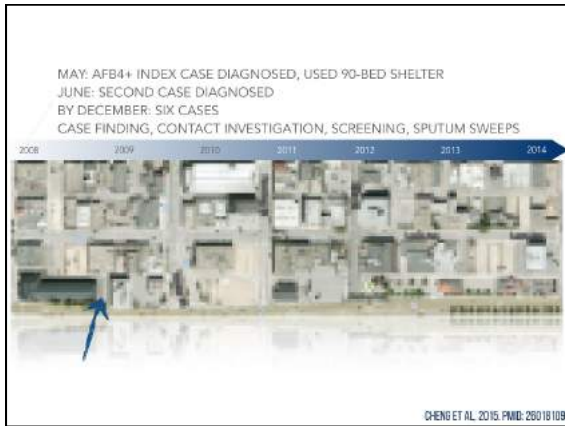
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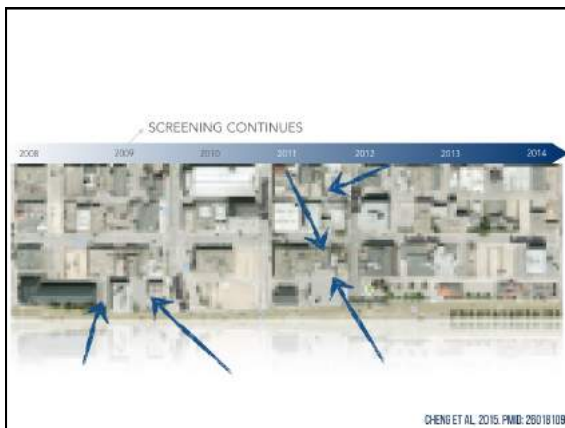
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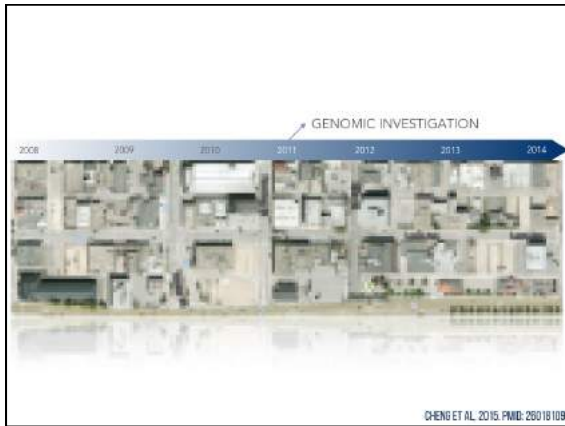
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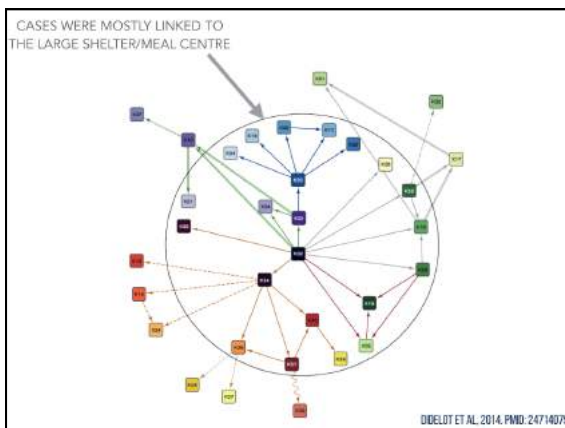
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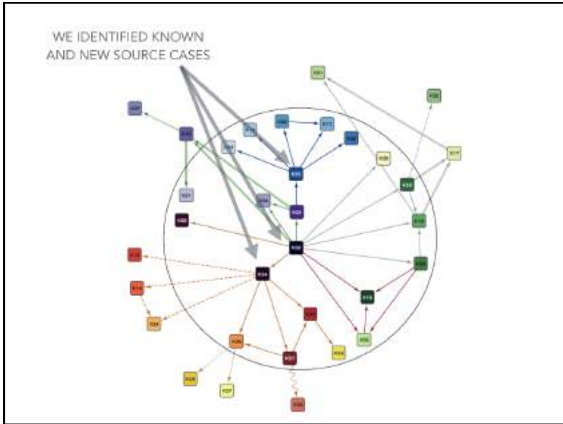
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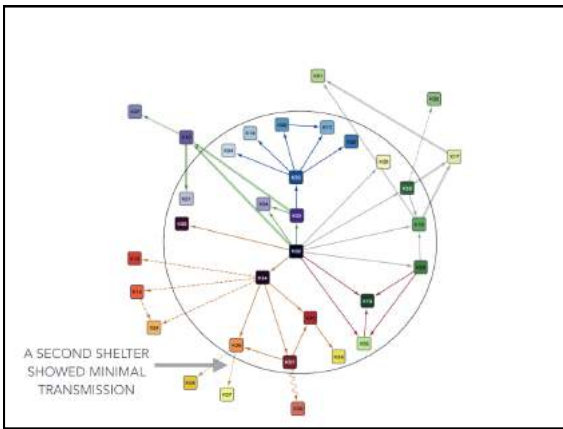
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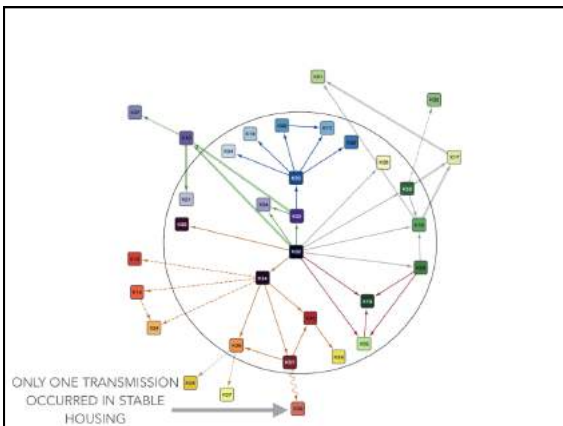
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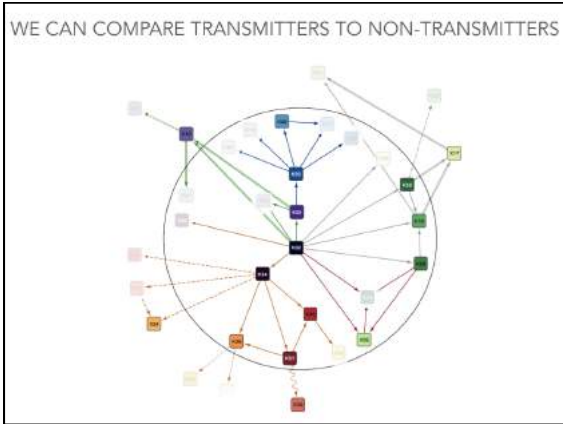
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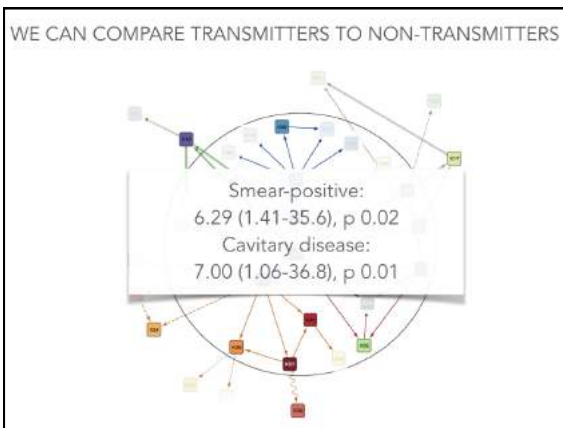
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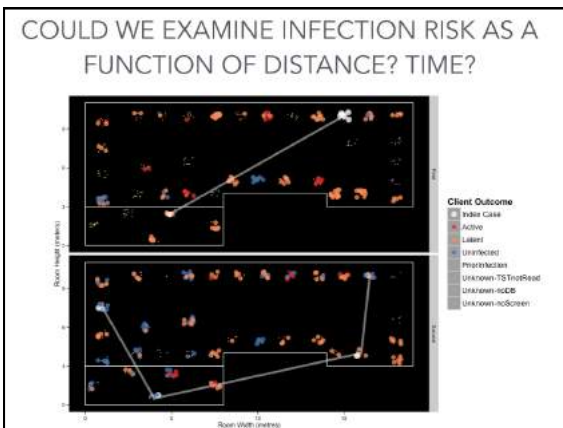
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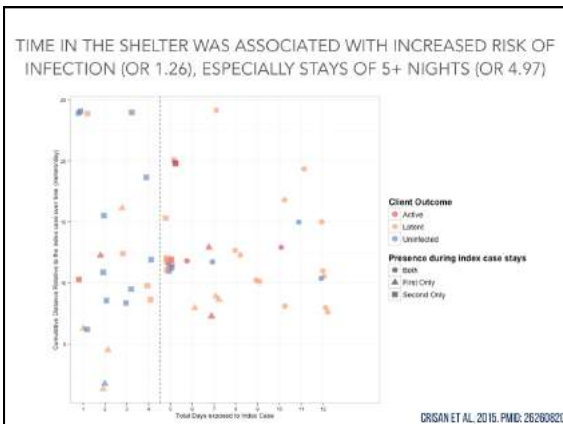
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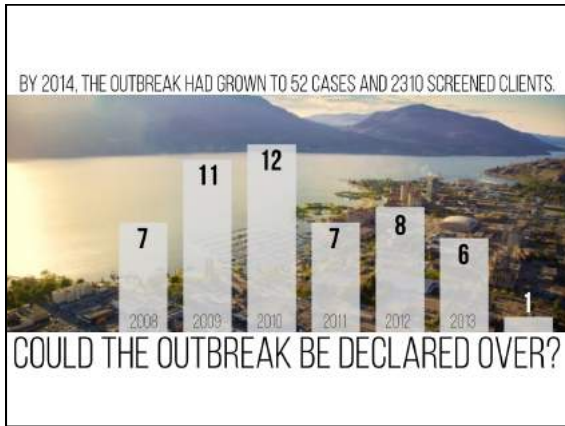
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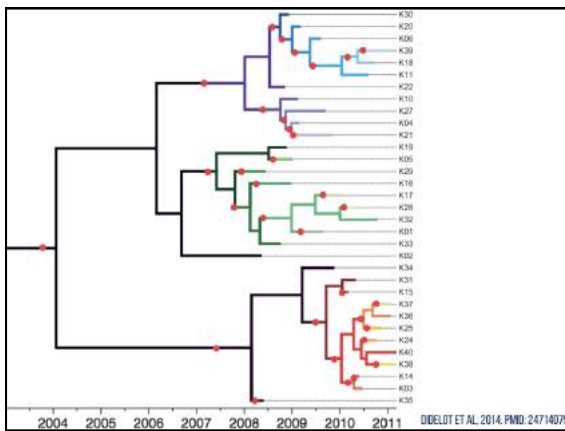
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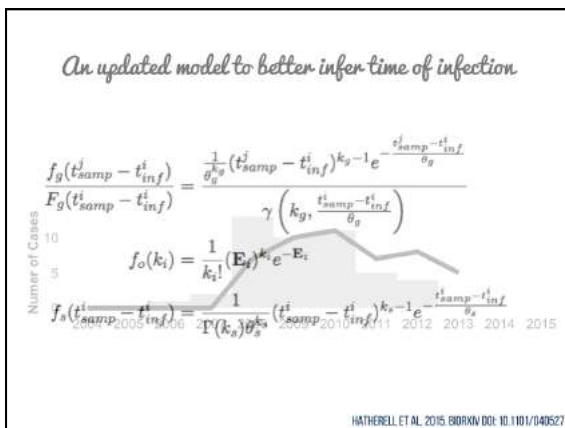
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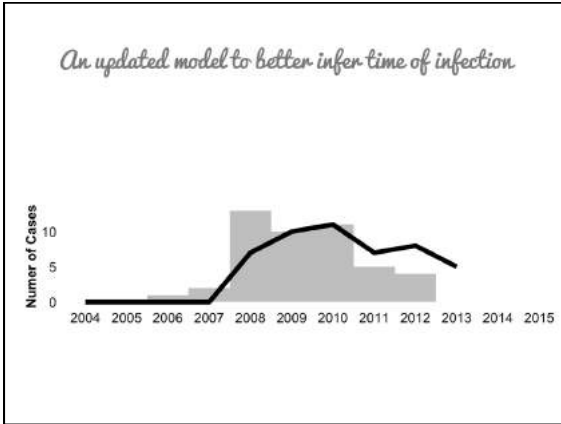
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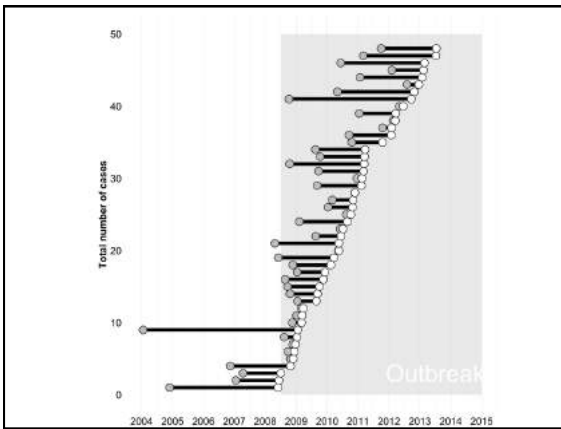
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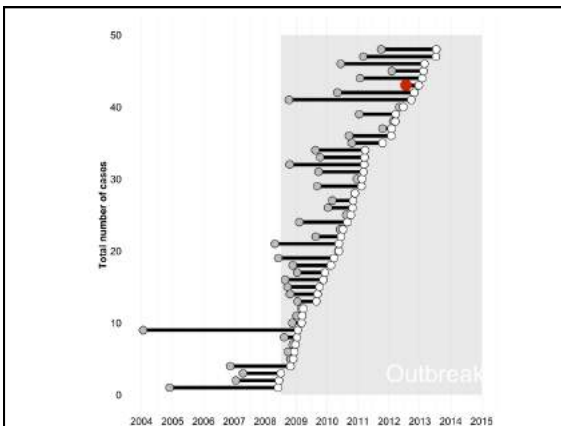
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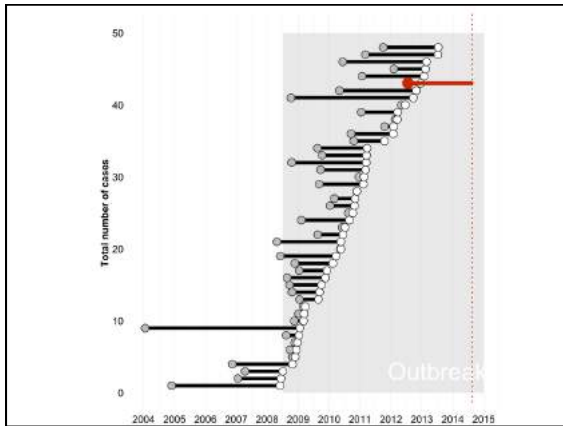
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**Interior Health** **MEMO**

**To:** CDB, Prevention & Protection, Multidisciplinary Tuberculosis & Safety, TB Administrators, TB Administrators, Service Director Team, CD Unit

**From:** Dr. Ian Pridmore, National Health Officer & Medical Director, Communicable Disease

**Date:** February 4, 2015

**RE:** Genomic changes in Tuberculosis

In 2008, an outbreak of multidrug-resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) was declared after a higher than expected number of TB cases were identified in the Central Okanagan, between 2008 and 2010. It was characterized as the major driver in the rise of TB cases and incidence, which affected related persons in addition with a small cluster of cases in Kamloops and central Okanagan Suburban Area.

Interior Health's TB Control Management Team, in partnership with CDB team to coordinate an effort to BC Centre for Disease Control (BC CDC) and other agencies to identify and trace cases and prevent transmission. Public Health BC, BC Laboratory and provincial agencies also identified that the peak of the outbreak occurred in late 2010 to early 2011. There has been no evidence of ongoing transmission and incidence of new TB cases has returned to baseline pre-outbreak levels.

**The Central Okanagan TB outbreak is declared over as of January 26, 2015.**

We would like to publicly thank TB Administrators for the outbreak in the coming years, the dedication of TB Control staff, other community health workers, the CDB team and everyone who has demonstrated a strong commitment to TB control, prevention and care.

Outbreak of TB among heretofore persons are strongly related to social determinants of health such as employment, income, skills training, and access to health care. Preventing and controlling future outbreaks requires continued attention to these through comprehensive policies and programs that address public health disparities in our community.

In spirit of the Office of the Medical Health Officers, we thank each of you for your hard work and contribution in controlling this outbreak, and for your continued dedication to TB prevention and control.

If you have any questions, please contact the Communicable Disease Unit at 1-800-775-7718 or by email [CDCommunicableDisease@interior.ca](mailto:CDCommunicableDisease@interior.ca)

Tel: 250-860-7070 or 1-800-667-0242  
 Email: [info@interior.ca](mailto:info@interior.ca)  
 www.interior.ca

Communicable Disease  
 1500 Columbia  
 Kamloops, BC V1Y 1W1

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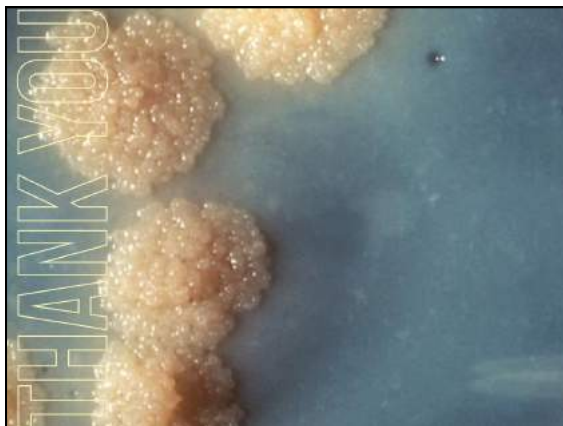
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