

Computer's Association Issue

# TUBERCULOSIS

TESTING + TREATMENT

OF U.S. HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL

## FOR TUBERCULOSIS (TB) SCREENING, TESTING, AND TREATMENT

for health care personnel in the United States.

What are the updated recommendations?

- Before starting a new job in a health care setting, all workers and volunteers should receive
- An annual TB test is not recommended unless there is a
- Treatment for latent TB infection (LTBI) is strongly encouraged for health care personnel diagnosed

CDC TB Update

EMPLOYEE SCREENING, TESTING, TREATMENT

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## Disclaimer

Karen Gregory RN is an employee of Total Medical Compliance.

Karen Gregory is a Hu-Friedy Key Opinion Leader, a consultant for SciCan and serves on the OSAP Board of Directors.

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## OBJECTIVES

- Explain the process for new hire TB evaluation
- Discuss management of employees diagnosed with latent TB

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Slide 4 features two circular icons at the top: a blue circle with a white bar chart and a teal circle with a white person icon and a stethoscope. Below the bar chart icon is the text: "NUMBER OF TUBERCULOSIS (TB) CASES IN THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO DECLINE". Below the person icon is the text: "INCIDENCE OF TB AMONG HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL DUE TO OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE IS LOW". A blue footer bar contains the text "Why the Change?" in white.

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Slide 5 is titled "TB Symptoms" and lists five symptoms: "Cough that lasts 3 weeks or longer", "Productive cough (bloody), chills, fever", "Weakness or fatigue", "Decreased appetite, weight loss", and "Night sweats". Below the list is a graphic with the word "TUBERCULOSIS" in large purple letters, a stethoscope icon, and the text "TESTING + TREATMENT" and "OF U.S. HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL".

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Slide 6 is titled "At Risk?" and features two light blue rounded rectangular boxes. The first box contains the text: "Persons who have been recently infected with TB bacteria". The second box contains the text: "Persons with medical conditions that weaken the immune system".

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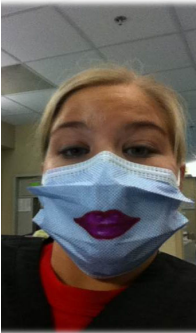
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### Transmission

- Person with TB disease of the lungs or throat coughs, sneezes, speaks, or sings
- Germs stay in the air for several hours
- Breathe in the air containing these germs

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### Latent TB

- Not symptomatic, or contagious
- Does not feel ill
- Positive TB skin test or positive blood test
- May develop TB disease if not treated
- Many people never develop TB disease
  - inactive for a lifetime without causing disease
- People with weak immune system are at risk for progression to TB disease

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### TB Infection Control Plan ensures:

- ❖ Detection
- ❖ Protection
- ❖ Treatment

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### TB Infection Control Plan

- Assigning oversight for TB infection control
- Conducting a TB risk assessment
- Developing and implementing a written plan
- Availability of recommended laboratory testing and resulting
- Effective work practices to manage suspect patients with TB disease

9/12/2019

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### TB Infection Control Plan

- Cleaning, sterilization, or disinfection of equipment (scopes)
- Educating, training, and counseling health care personnel, patients, and visitors
- Screening, testing, and evaluating at risk personnel
- Using Cover Your Cough posters
- Coordinating efforts between health departments and healthcare providers

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### New Guidance

CDC, National Tuberculosis Controllers Association (NTCA)

-  TB risk assessment
-  Symptom screen
-  TB blood or skin test for healthcare personnel upon hire or during the preplacement process

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## Baseline Assessment

**Health Care Personnel (HCP)  
Baseline Individual TB Risk Assessment**

**HCP should be considered at increased risk for TB if any of the following statements are marked "Yes":**

	<b>Temporary or permanent residence of ≥1 month in a country with a high TB rate</b> <small>Any country other than the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and those in Northern Europe or Western Europe</small>	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
OR		
	<b>Current or planned immunosuppression,</b> <small>including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, organ transplant recipient, treatment with a TNF-alpha antagonist (e.g., infliximab, etanercept, or other), chronic steroids (equivalent of prednisone ≥15 mg/day for ≥1 month) or</small>	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

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## Symptom Screening

- Cough that lasts 3 weeks or longer
- Chest pain
- Bloody sputum
- Weakness or fatigue
- No appetite, weight loss
- Fever, chills
- Night sweats



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## Two Step Skin Test

Place test, read 48 – 72 hours later


**Positive skin test:** Person's body was infected with TB bacteria and additional tests are needed

**Negative skin test:** This means the person's body did not react to the test

If negative, repeat the skin test 1 – 3 weeks later



Administering the TB skin test



Reading the result of a TB skin test

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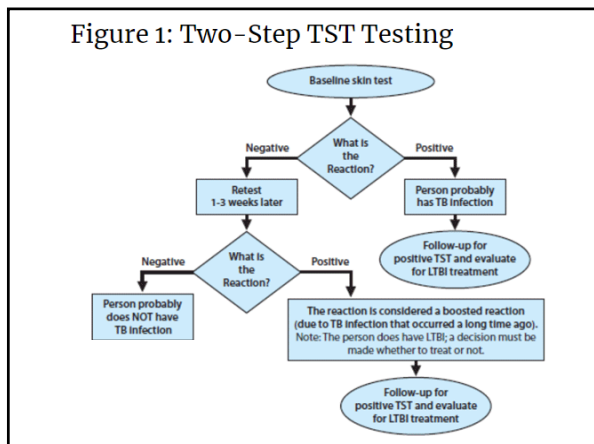
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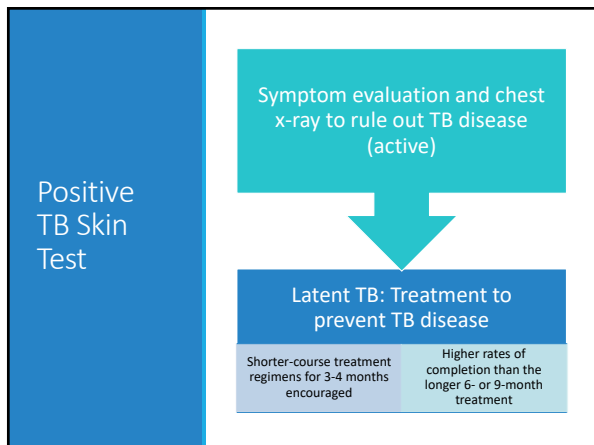
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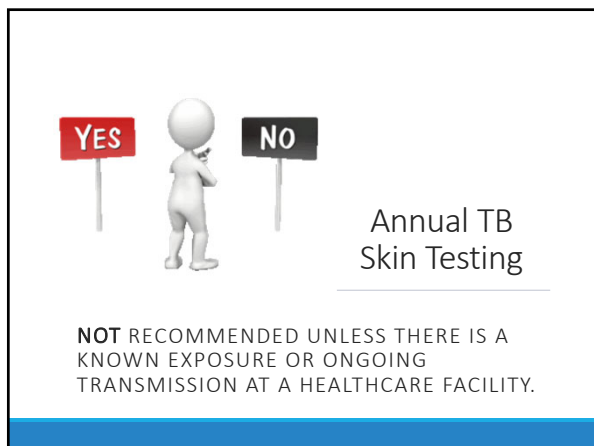
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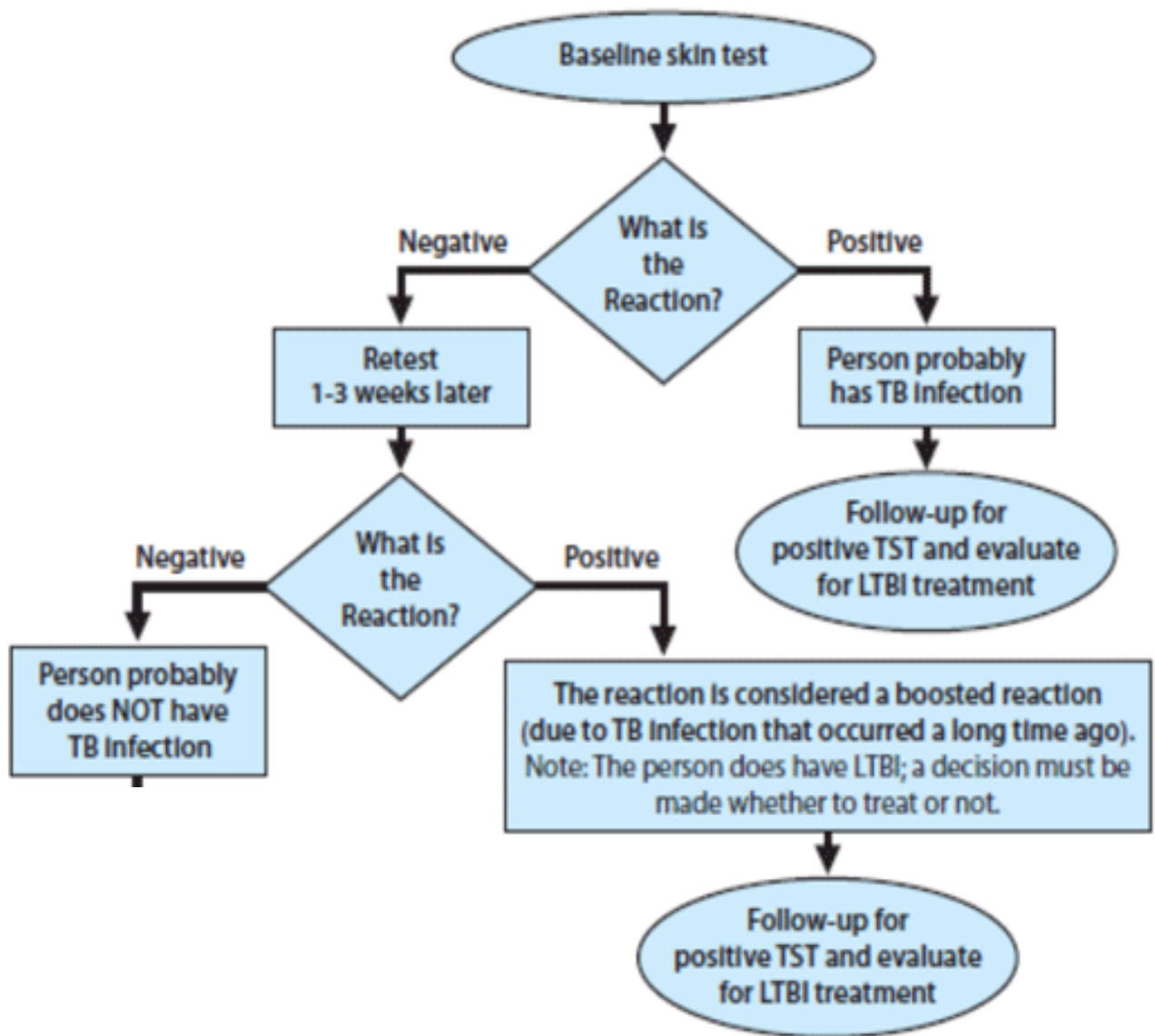
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# Figure 1: Two-Step TST Testing



SCREENED ANNUALLY FOR SYMPTOMS OF TB DISEASE

# Untreated Latent TB

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Group	Recommendation
Contacts to infectious tuberculosis	Screen with IGRA if available These groups take precedence for available tuberculin
Persons from medium/high incidence countries Persons suspected of TB disease	IGRA strongly preferred These groups take second priority for a tuberculin
Persons being screened annually as part of an employee infection control program	Defer screening until tuberculin becomes available
Persons for whom screening is required by NC regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff with direct inmate contact upon employment</li> <li>• Inmates in the custody of the Department of Corrections (both testing upon incarceration and yearly thereafter)</li> <li>• Staff of licensed nursing care homes upon employment</li> <li>• Residents upon admission to licensed nursing homes or adult care homes</li> <li>• Staff in adult day care centers providing care to persons with HIV/AIDS upon employment</li> <li>• Persons with HIV/AIDS</li> </ul>	Use an IGRA if resources are available Otherwise defer screening until tuberculin becomes available
Low-risk persons being tested for administrative purposes	Do not screen

Tuberculin Shortage

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Previous Positive Skin Test

Baseline individual TB risk assessment

TB symptom screen upon hire (i.e., preplacement)

A repeat TB test (e.g., TB blood test or a TB skin test) is not required

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Workplace TB Exposure Testing

-  TB Symptom Screen
-  TB Blood Test or Skin Test
-  Retested 8 -10 weeks later with the same testing method

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### Websites

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State TB Control Offices  
<https://www.cdc.gov/tb/links/tboffices.htm>

CDC Resources – Healthcare Providers  
<https://www.cdc.gov/tb/topic/infectioncontrol/default.htm>

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### Thank you!

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# TUBERCULIN SKIN TEST (TST) – Employee

**DRAFT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Recent TST: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No      Test Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Test Results: \_\_\_\_\_

Chest film taken for previous positive chest film?

## TUBERCULIN SKIN TEST CONSENT

I consent to the administration of a tuberculin skin test.

All of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I have adequate knowledge upon which to base my consent.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## TUBERCULIN TEST DECLINATION

I understand that due to my occupational exposure to Tuberculosis I may be at risk of acquiring Tuberculosis infection. I have been given the opportunity to receive the TST at no charge to myself. I am declining to be tested at this time.

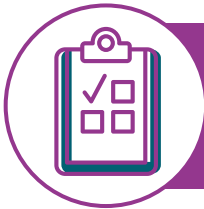
If in the future I decide to accept this test, my employer will provide the TST at no charge to me.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Maintain for duration of employment plus 30 years.**






## Symptom Review

- Bad cough that lasts 3 weeks or longer
- Chest Pain
- Bloody sputum/phlegm
- Weakness or fatigue
- Weight loss
- Loss of appetite
- Chills
- Fever
- Sweating at night



# Health Care Personnel (HCP) Baseline Individual TB Risk Assessment

**HCP should be considered at increased risk for TB if any of the following statements are marked “Yes”:**

 	<p><b>Temporary or permanent residence of <math>\geq 1</math> month in a country with a high TB rate</b></p> <p>Any country other than the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and those in Northern Europe or Western Europe</p>	<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<b>OR</b>		
 	<p><b>Current or planned immunosuppression,</b></p> <p>including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, organ transplant recipient, treatment with a TNF-alpha antagonist (e.g., infliximab, etanercept, or other), chronic steroids (equivalent of prednisone <math>\geq 15</math> mg/day for <math>\geq 1</math> month) or other immunosuppressive medication</p>	<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<b>OR</b>		
	<p><b>Close contact with someone who has had infectious TB disease since the last TB test</b></p>	<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Abbreviations: HCP, health-care personnel; TB, tuberculosis; TNF, tumor necrosis factor.

Individual risk assessment information can be useful in interpreting TB test results (see Lewinsohn DM, Leonard MK, LoBue PA, et al. Official American Thoracic Society/Infectious Diseases Society of America/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Clinical Practice Guidelines: Diagnosis of tuberculosis in adults and children. Clin Infect Dis 2017;64:111–5).

Adapted from: Risk assessment form developed by the California Department of Health, Tuberculosis Control Branch.

Sosa LE, Njie GJ, Lobato MN, et al. Tuberculosis Screening, Testing, and Treatment of U.S. Health Care Personnel: Recommendations from the National Tuberculosis Controllers Association and CDC, 2019. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2019;68:439–43. [https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6819a3.htm?s\\_cid=mm6819a3\\_w](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6819a3.htm?s_cid=mm6819a3_w)



**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**  
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention

In May 2019, CDC and the National TB Controllers Association issued

# TUBERCULOSIS

TESTING



TREATMENT



FOR U.S. HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL

## UPDATED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TUBERCULOSIS (TB) SCREENING, TESTING, AND TREATMENT

for health care personnel in the United States.



### What are the updated recommendations?

Before starting a new job in a health care setting, all workers and volunteers should receive



TB individual risk assessment



Symptom screening



TB test

An annual TB test is not recommended unless there is a known exposure or ongoing transmission.

All health care personnel should receive TB education every year.

Treatment for latent TB infection (LTBI) is strongly encouraged for health care personnel diagnosed with LTBI.

Shorter treatment regimens should be used.



### Who is affected by the new recommendations?

Individuals who work or volunteer in health care settings



#### Health care settings include

- › Inpatient and outpatient settings
- › Laboratories
- › Emergency medical services
- › Medical settings in prisons or jails
- › Home-based health care settings
- › Long-term care facilities

### What if my state's regulations are different?

Follow your state's guidance.



For TB regulations in your area, please contact your state or local TB control program.



Where can I get more information?

[www.cdc.gov/tb](http://www.cdc.gov/tb)



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention