

Tuberculin Test

Sept. 1, 2019 • Information for Pierce County healthcare providers

Communicable Disease Control
3629 S. D St. • Tacoma, WA 98418
(253) 649-1412 • (253) 649-1389 (fax)

Indications for 2-Step Tuberculin Skin Test

For healthcare workers, residents and staff of correctional and long-term care facilities

Situation	Result
No previous tuberculin skin test (TST) result.	2-step baseline TST.
Previous negative TST result (documented or not) more than 12 months before new employment.	2-step baseline TST.
Previous documented negative TST result 12 months or less before new employment.	Single TST needed for baseline testing—this test will be the second step.
Two or more previous documented negative TST results but most recent TST was more than 12 months before new employment.	Single TST needed—2-step testing is not necessary.
Previous documented positive TST result.	No TST.
Previous undocumented positive TST result.	2-step baseline TST.
Previous Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccination.	2-step baseline TST.
Programs that use blood test for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> —Interferon-Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) including QuantiFERon TB-Gold® (QFT).	See supplement—Using QFT-G for diagnosing <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infections in healthcare workers.

For newly hired healthcare workers and others who will be routinely tested (e.g., residents or staff of correctional or long-term care facilities), a previous positive TST does not contraindicate a subsequent TST, unless the test was associated with severe ulceration or anaphylactic shock (substantially rare adverse events). If the previous positive TST result is not documented, administer 2-step TST or offer IGRA.

Sources

- Aventis Pasteur. Tuberculin purified protein derivative (Mantoux) Tubersol® diagnostic antigen. Toronto, Ontario, Canada: Aventis Pasteur; 2001.
- Parkdale Pharmaceuticals. APLISOL (Tuberculin purified protein derivative, diluted [stabilized] solution). Diagnostic antigen for intradermal injection only. Rochester, MI: Parkdale Pharmaceuticals; 2002.
- Froeschle JE, Ruben FL, Bloh AM. Immediate hypersensitivity reactions after use of tuberculin skin testing. Clin. Infect. Dis. 2002;34:E12-3.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in Healthcare Settings, 2005, MMWR December 30, 2005/54(RR-17).