

Tuberculin Test



Jan. 2018 • Information for Pierce County Medical Providers

Communicable Disease Division
3629 South D Street, Tacoma, WA 98418
(253) 798-6410 (phone) • (253) 798-7666 (fax)

Indications for Two-Step Tuberculin Skin Test (TST)

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

Situation	Recommended Testing
No previous TST result	Two-step baseline TST
Previous negative TST result (documented or not) greater than 12 months before new employment	Two-step baseline TST
Previous documented negative TST result less than or equal to 12 months before new employment	Single TST needed for baseline testing; this test will be the second step
Greater than or equal to two previous documented negative TSTs but most recent TST greater than 12 months before new employment	Single TST; two-step testing is not necessary
Previous documented positive TST result	No TST
Previous undocumented positive TST result	Two-step baseline TST
Previous Bacille Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccination	Two-step baseline TST
Programs that use Blood assay for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> (BAMT), including QuantiFERon TB-Gold® (QFT)	See Supplement, Use of QFT-G for Diagnosing <i>M. tuberculosis</i> Infections in Health Care Workers

For newly hired healthcare workers and other persons who will be tested on a routine basis (e.g., residents or staff of correctional or long-term care facilities), a previous TST is not a contraindication to a subsequent TST, unless the test was associated with severe ulceration or anaphylactic shock, which are substantially rare adverse events. If the previous positive TST result is not documented, administer two-step TST or offer BAMT.

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 Health-Care Settings, 2005, MMWR December 30, 2005/54(RR-17).