

## Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Recommendations for Employees and Volunteers

TB Screening is recommended upon initial hire or placement for all employees and volunteers. A volunteer is defined as one who expects to work 150 or more hours during the year.

### Requirements for Contract Workers and Students

Supplying agencies or schools are responsible for pre-placement TB assessment and follow-up. This should be clarified with agencies or schools to confirm that individual contract workers and/or students have had their TB skin test and any additional assessment as needed to rule out TB disease prior to starting the placement.

### The following assessment must be initiated upon hire or placement:

|  | Initial Assessment   | Results – What to do next  |
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| <b>Person with Unknown or undocumented TST</b>               | A 2-step TST is required   | If both tests are negative annual TST is not recommended<br><br>If either test is positive refer to <b>*Person with a positive TST</b> |
| <b>Person with documented results of previous 1-step TST</b> | If test was negative and done <b>&gt;12 months ago</b> a 2-step TST is necessary<br><br>If test was negative and done <b>&lt; 12 months ago</b> one TST is required<br><br>If test was positive see section <b>*Person with a positive TST</b> | If tests are negative annual TST is not recommended<br><br>If either test is positive refer to <b>*Person with a positive TST</b>      |
| <b>Person with documented results of previous 2-step TST</b> | If both tests were negative and <b>done &gt; 12 months ago</b> a 1-step TST is necessary<br><br>If both tests were negative and <b>done &lt; 12 months ago</b> No further testing is recommended   | If both tests are negative annual TST is not recommended<br><br>If either test is positive refer to <b>*Person with a positive TST</b> |

### **\*Person with a positive TST**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to Health Care Provider for a further assessment (symptom review and a chest x-ray are recommended to rule out active TB disease)</li> <li>Further skin testing is not recommended</li> <li>The person should be informed of the signs and symptoms of active TB disease</li> </ul> NOTE: Report any employee/volunteer with a <b>new</b> positive TST to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit | Person should not work until health care provider provides documentation that the person does not have infectious TB disease. |
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### Annual TB skin testing for employees and volunteers is not recommended.

**Note:** Persons with medical conditions that severely weaken the immune system may have a negative TST even though they have TB infection (LTBI).

#### Reference:

Canadian Thoracic Society (CTS) of the Canadian Lung Association (CLA); Public Agency of Canada (PHAC). (2013). *Canadian Tuberculosis Standards*, 7th edition. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/infectious-diseases/canadian-tuberculosis-standards-7th-edition.html>.

“Recommendations for Employees and Volunteers” by Peel Public Health, February 14, 2013. Adapted with permission Peel Public Health.

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