

TB Screening and Testing Requirements

Definitions:

TB screening	• includes TB risk assessment, symptom evaluation and TB testing
TB risk assessment	• assessment of an individuals risk for developing TB infection
Symptom evaluation	• health questionnaire or exam that assesses for symptoms of TB disease
TB testing	• testing for <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection by either TST or IGRA
TST	• TB skin test
IGRA	• Interferon-Gamma Release Assays (blood test for TB infection)
LTBI	• latent TB infection (not symptomatic and not contagious)
TB Disease	• active disease with symptoms and is contagious
HCP	• healthcare personnel

Category	2019 CDC Recommendations & Utah TB Control Program Manual
Baseline (preplacement) screening and testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual TB risk assessment Symptom evaluation TB test (IGRA or TST) for those <i>without</i> prior TB disease or LTBI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For TST – 2-step for those <i>without</i> a documented negative skin test within the past year A positive TST or IGRA should be repeated if no risk to low risk of TB per risk assessment CXR and symptom evaluation for those <i>with</i> prior TB disease or LTBI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If documentation of a normal CXR, a repeat CXR is only necessary if symptomatic or starting LTBI treatment
Postexposure screening and testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Symptom evaluation for all HCP when exposure recognized TB test (IGRA or TST) for HCP with baseline negative TB test without prior TB disease or LTBI when exposure is identified If first TB test after exposure is negative, do another test 8-10 weeks after the last exposure
Serial screening and testing for HCP without LTBI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not routinely recommended At facility discretion for selected HCP groups Annual TB education for all HCP, including information about TB exposure risks for all HCP
Evaluation and treatment of positive test results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment encouraged for all HCP with untreated LTBI, unless medically contraindicated Annual symptom evaluation for HCP who do not complete LTBI treatment

Additional notes:

- In high-risk congregate settings, including health-care facilities (both in and outpatient) and long-term care facilities (e.g. nursing homes), **individuals housed in these facilities should be screened using the same guidelines as for employees.**
- Facility TB risk assessments should still be completed to guide infection prevention policies and procedures, but no longer drive serial TB screening and testing.

References:

CDC: [Tuberculosis Screening, Testing, and Treatment of U.S. Health Care Personnel: Recommendations from the National Tuberculosis Controllers Association and CDC, 2019](#)

CDC: [TB Screening and Testing of Health Care Personnel](#)

Utah Department of Health: [Tuberculosis Control Program Manual](#)