



Technical Bulletin

Division of Public and Behavioral Health



Date: 03/25/2015

Topic: Update on Tuberculin Shortage for Screening and Treating Tuberculosis Infection

Contact: Camy Retzl, State TB Controller/ Tuberculosis Program/Office of Epidemiology

To: All Public Health Authorities, Healthcare Workers, Infection Control Professionals, and Nevada Department of Corrections and Nevada Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) Personnel

Update: This communication is to provide an update on the August 2013 Technical Bulletin regarding the nationwide shortage of Tuberculin used for Tuberculosis skin testing (TST).

As of 2015, the Tuberculin shortage appears to be resolved and Tuberculosis testing should be resumed as normal. Tuberculosis screening activities as required in NAC 441A, which are based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the State of Nevada's Tuberculosis Prevention, Control and Elimination Program, should continue to be conducted using a skin test (PPD) or interferon-gamma release assay (IGRA) blood tests (commonly referred to as QFT or T-spot).

For further guidance on the CDC and the State of Nevada's best practice recommendations and regulatory requirements, please refer to the following website links.

Should you need additional assistance or further clarification, please contact your local health department, or the State of Nevada's Tuberculosis Controller at (702) 486-0089.

Nevada Administrative Code (NAC 441A.325 – NAC 441A.390):

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-441A.html#NAC441ASec325>

For Healthcare Workers and Health Care Facilities:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5417.pdf>


For Correctional Institutions:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5509a1.htm/rr5417a1.htm>

Using IGRA blood tests as an alternative to PPD:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr5905.pdf>


Tracey Green, MD
Chief Medical Officer


Marta E. Jensen
Acting Administrator