

GENERAL MEDICAL 3.0

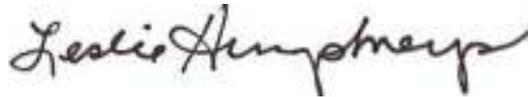
Occupational Health Services – 3.2

Tuberculosis Surveillance of Employees – 3.2.c

Date Issued: November 15, 2013

**Date Last
Revised:**

Signature:



By:

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Assistant Commissioner
Division of Community Health Services

POLICY

Employees who have patient contact and are assessed at being at risk of significant exposure, including part-time, contractual, and volunteers, shall be screened for tuberculosis (TB) using the TB Risk Assessment Tool (TB RAT) and/or sequential TB skin tests. The Regional Medical Director shall determine the risk of effective exposure. Other employees do not need to be screened for tuberculosis unless they develop persistent pulmonary symptoms or there is contact to an infectious case of tuberculosis. No employee should be denied screening if requested.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to Local Health Department and Regional Office personnel.

PURPOSE

To protect the health of all people receiving services from public health departments.

PROCEDURE

At the time of employment, or when employees are assigned to an area where they will have patient contact that could result in a significant exposure, employees will receive a TB Risk Assessment Tool screening according to Public Health Nursing protocol. If a TB skin test is indicated, the appropriate skin test

will be provided at the health department clinic at no cost to the employee. Employees who are defined as having continuing risk of exposure should have annual TB skin test.

Employees who convert from low risk to high risk status must be evaluated by the Regional Tuberculosis Control Physician. If treatment of disease or preventive therapy is indicated, it should be prescribed and monitored as with any other patient according to Tennessee TB Elimination Program guidelines and PHN protocol.

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Tuberculosis Guidelines (2004)

Public Health Nurse protocol

OFFICE OF PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY

Office of the Medical Director, Division of Community Health Services, (615) 253-3407