



MEDICAL AFFAIRS HEALTH SCREEN Q & A'S

Credentialed Professional Staff, Residents, Clinical Fellows and Visiting Electives

- Q** Should I complete the health screening requirements before my start date?
- A** Yes. Every effort should be made to complete and submit the health screen requirements before your start date. Failure to do so may result in a delay to beginning your employment or clinical placement.
- Q** Where can I obtain documentation of my previous immunizations, immunity and TB skin test results?
- A** Immunization records, proof of immunity and results of TB skin tests are available from family physicians/primary care providers, local public health units, government immunization portals, universities and college student health services, immigration records, and occupational health services at a previous employer.
- Q** Where can I have immunizations, serology testing or a TB skin test done before my start date?
- A** Family physicians/primary care providers, community clinics, public health units, student health or occupational health services at your current place of employment/placement are all potential options where immunizations, serology and TB skin tests may be completed. LHSC Occupational Health Services (OHS) also helps with pre-employment immunizations, TB skin Tests and serology if needed.
- Q** Where do I send my completed Health Screen Form, and who can I contact for assistance with my health screen requirements?
- A** Completed Health Screen Forms can be submitted to: OHSS-medicalaffairs@lhsc.on.ca Contact OHS for assistance with your health Screen, or to arrange an appointment to have your pre-employment requirements completed:
- OHS – Victoria Hospital: 519-685-8500 ext. 52286**
- OHS – University Hospital: 519-685-8500 ext. 33201**
- Q** What happens if I am missing a requirement on my Health Screen Form?
- A** Occupational Health Services will review your Health Screen Form and contact you if there are any outstanding requirements. It is important to provide yourself 4-6 weeks before you start date to complete any outstanding immunizations, serology tests and TB skin tests.
- Q** I was a resident at LHSC 2 years ago. Do I need to complete another Health Screen Form?

A Yes. A new health screen provides the opportunity to submit up-to-date immunization documentation and inform Occupational Health Services of any changes in your health status. Please indicate on your new health screen form that you have a past LHSC record.

Q **What are the current COVID-19 vaccine requirements?**

A COVID-19 vaccines are not required but is highly recommended.

Q **What's involved in a 2 step TB Skin Test?**

A: A 2 Step TB Skin Test includes the 1st skin test administered, then read by a qualified professional 48 -72 hours after administration. This is followed by a 2nd test administered a minimum of 7 days following the first, and up to 1 year after the 1st TB skin test. Again, the test needs to be read 48-72 hours after the tuberculin is injected. Therefore, four visits are required to complete a 2 step TB skin test. The minimum number of days required to complete both steps is 9 days. Please note that TB skin tests cannot be administered on Thursdays as the required appointment for interpretation must take place 48-72 hours after administration.

Q **I had a QuantiFERON-TB Gold test done. Do I still need a TB skin Test?**

A Yes. TB skin tests are required for surveillance purposes in relation to occupational exposure to active TB. LHSC requires baseline TB skin tests for all employees and learners. QuantiFERON-TB Gold tests can follow a positive TB skin test to determine if the result is a true or false positive. LHSC does not require these tests and they are not covered by the Ontario Health Plan (OHIP).

Q **I had BCG vaccination as a child. Should I still get a TB skin test done?**

A Yes. BCG vaccination is not a contraindication to the TB skin Test. BCG vaccination given during infancy is an unlikely explanation for a positive TB skin test since immunity from BCG vaccination wanes after about 10 years. Therefore, a TB skin test is still needed as an initial screening tool for latent or active Tuberculosis infection.

Q **I had a positive TB skin test in the past. Do I need another one?**

A No. Once you have had one positive TB skin test, you should avoid having another one in the future to prevent having a severe blistering reaction. There is also no clinical value in repeating TB skin tests once positive.

Q **My TB skin test is positive. Is there anything else I need to do?**

A Yes. A chest X-ray is required following a positive TB Skin Test. You are also required to complete *Section C: TB Questionnaire*, and *Section D: Positive TB Skin Test Education & Attestation* on the Health Review Form.