



SURVEY FOR STAFF WITH POSITIVE TB SKIN TEST

What does it mean to have a reactive TB Skin test?

"TB" means Tuberculosis. It is caused by a germ called mycoplasma tuberculosis. Having a reactive or "positive" TB skin test does not mean you have active tuberculosis, or that you are infectious to others. It does, however, indicate you have been infected with tuberculosis bacteria at some time in your life or have had BCG vaccination in the past.

More than likely, you became infected when you breathed in air which contained the tuberculosis germs. Your immune system attacks the germs which stopped any further growth. The red, raised area that developed on your forearm after your TB test is a sign of your immune system's response to the TB bacteria.

Approximately 10% of people who are infected with TB will develop active disease at some point in their lives. (About half of the 10% will develop disease within the first 1-2 years and the other half will develop disease at a later time.) In the remaining 90%, the infection does not cause illness. Taking special anti-tuberculosis medicine greatly decreases the chance of developing active tuberculosis. Medical therapy is recommended for most people who develop reactive TB skin tests.

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Date of previous TB skin test? _____ Result: Negative Positive Never had
2. What year did you have your last chest x-ray? _____
Where: _____
3. Have you ever had BCG vaccination? If yes, date: _____ Yes No
4. Have you ever had positive findings on a chest x-ray relating to tuberculosis? Yes No
5. Were you evaluated by a medical professional as a result of your TB skin test results? Yes No
6. Have you ever had active TB disease? Yes No
7. Was medication prescribed for you? If yes, date: _____ Yes No
8. Did you take the medication? Yes No
9. How long did you take the medication? _____
10. Have you had an unprotected exposure to anyone with known active TB in the past year? Yes No
Date: _____ Where: _____
11. Have you had any of the following symptoms with the past year?
 Productive, persistent cough Chest pain Coughing up blood
 Loss of appetite Unexplained weight loss Night sweats
 Fever Fatigue
12. Immigration to Canada? Date: _____ From what country? _____ Yes No
State countries outside Canada / U.S.A that you travelled to: _____

Comments: _____

Important Facts to Remember:

- Once you have had a reactive TB test, **NEVER** be tested again. Even if you take anti-tuberculosis medication, you will most likely always test positive. And if you are retested, it is possible that you will have a much more significant reaction with blistering and scarring.
- Even if you have taken anti-tuberculosis medication in the past, it is still possible to be reinfected at any time. Since you cannot be skin tested again, it is very important that you know the signs and symptoms of TB infection and that you report any symptoms immediately to your doctor or Occupational Health Services.

EMPLOYEE PRINTED NAME: _____ Employee No.: _____
 EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____
 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSE SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____