

Medical Affairs Tuberculosis Health Education Agreement

I acknowledge the following:

1. Positive tuberculin skin tests (TSTs) are potentially caused from reactivity from a previous bcg vaccination (which loses reactivity after 15 years) or can be due to an acquired latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI). There is a 5% lifetime cumulative risk of reactivation to an acute tuberculosis infection, exacerbated by potential immunosuppressed periods.
2. An individual who has had a previous positive TST will never require a repeat test.
3. An individual with LTBI may progress to having an active tuberculosis infection. I acknowledge that this can happen for all individuals with a positive TST even if the individual has had a normal chest xray, or for those who were treated for active or LTBI previously.
4. Signs and symptoms associated with an active tuberculosis infection include:
 - a. Productive, persistent cough
 - b. Loss of appetite
 - c. Fever
 - d. Chest pain
 - e. Unexplained weight loss
 - f. Fatigue
 - g. Coughing up blood
 - h. Night sweats
5. I will obtain prompt assessment from a care provider if I develop signs and symptoms associated with an active tuberculosis infection and will refrain from attending work at LHSC.

Name:

Employee's Signature:

Date:

An interferon-gamma release assay (IGRA) test is available to help distinguish whether positive TSTs are caused by LTBI or previous bcg vaccination. This test costs \$90 and is not covered by insurance.

Additionally, treatment for LTBI is available through a referral to a respirologist. The most common treatment involves a nine month course of Isoniazid (INH). This treatment regimen requires regular monitoring as it has there is a 1.2% risk of hepatotoxicity associated with this medication.

Please follow-up with OHSS to arrange an appointment with the OHSS nurse practitioner should you have any questions, or if you are interested in a referral for LTBI treatment or IGRA testing.