

### **MEDICAL AFFAIRS HEALTH SCREEN Q & A'S**

- Q Should I complete the health screening requirements prior to my start date?**
- A** Yes. Every effort should be made to complete and submit the health screen requirements prior to 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 agencies, universities and college 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 provider, community clinics, public health agencies, 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 accessed. LHSC and SJHC do not routinely complete pre-employment immunizations and serology testing.
- Q Where do I send my completed Health Screen Form, and who can I contact for assistance if needed?**
- A** Clinical Fellows and Professional staff should submit their completed health screen to the Occupational Health & Safety Services office associated with your primary affiliation. Residents and Visiting Electives can contact Occupational Health & Safety at LHSC, Victoria Hospital.

<b>Residents, Clinical Fellows and Professional Staff with Primary Affiliation at LHSC &amp; All Visiting Electives</b>	<b>Clinical Fellows and Professional Staff with Primary Affiliation at SJHC</b>
<p>London Health Sciences Centre Victoria Hospital Occupational Health and Safety Services, Rm E1-505 800 Commissioners Road East, London, ON N6A 5W9 519-685-8500 ext. 52286 Fax: 519-685-8374 Email: <a href="mailto:OHSS-medicalaffairs@lhsc.on.ca">OHSS-medicalaffairs@lhsc.on.ca</a></p>	<p>St. Joseph's Health Care London Occupational Health and Safety Services P.O. Box 5777, Stn B London, ON N6A 4V2 519-646-6100, ext. 64332 Fax: 519-646-6235 Email: <a href="mailto:ohss@sjhc.london.on.ca">ohss@sjhc.london.on.ca</a></p>

**Q What happens if I am missing a requirement on my health screen form?**

**A** An Occupational Health Nurse 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?**

**A** Yes. A new health screen provides the opportunity to submit up to date immunization documentation and to inform Occupational Health & Safety of any changes in your health status. Please indicate on your new health screen from that you have a past LHSC or SJHC record.

**Q Do COVID-19 vaccines interfere with other vaccinations?**

**A** No. COVID 19 vaccinations do not interfere or impact the timing of other vaccines.

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

**A:** A TB skin test, also known as a Mantoux Skin Test, is a one or two step test that involves injecting a small amount of tuberculin substance intradermally in the forearm. All Residents/Clinical Fellows/Visiting Electives/Professional Staff are required to have one documented two-step TB test and if the 2 step has been completed more than 1 year ago, then a 1 step is also required.

A 2 Step TB Skin Test includes the 1<sup>st</sup> skin test administered, then read by a qualified professional 48 -72 hours after administration. This is followed by a 2<sup>nd</sup> test at least 1 week, and up to 1 year after the 1<sup>st</sup> TB skin test. Again, the test needs to be read 48-72 hours after the tuberculin is injected. Therefore 4 visits are required in total to complete a 2 step TB skin test.

**I had an IGRA test done. Do I still need a TB skin Test?**

**A** Yes. The Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) does not accept an IGRA as an alternative to a TB skin test. IGRAs are not recommended for serial testing in health care workers due to difficulty interpreting the results related to variable conversion and reversion rates that are unrelated to exposure to TB.

**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 wains after about 10 years. Therefore, a TB skin test is still needed to screen for latent or active Tuberculosis infection.

**Q My TB Skin test is positive and it says I need a chest X-ray. I had a chest X-ray done for immigration purposes. Do I need another one?**

**A** The chest x-ray must be completed after the TB skin test was read. Therefore, if the TB skin test occurred before immigration and before the chest x-ray, then another one is not required. If you had the positive TB skin test after the immigration chest x-ray, then another one is required.

**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.

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

**A** Yes. Professional Staff/Residents/Clinical fellows and Visiting Electives who's primary affiliation is with LHSC are to complete the ***Tuberculosis Questionnaire*** and ***Medical Affairs Tuberculosis Health Teaching Agreement*** found at: [Medical Affairs Health Screen Forms](#).

For those with a primary affiliation with SJHC, you are required to answer the additional questions on the Health Screen form.