Nevada Tuberculosis Prevention, Control And Elimination Program:

Healthcare Facilities Tuberculosis Screening Manual



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this manual is to provide healthcare facilities in Nevada with direction from the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) Tuberculosis (TB) Program on TB screening and surveillance activities that are required by state law and statutes (NAC and NRS). In order to streamline the process of Tuberculosis screening, the State of Nevada Tuberculosis Program has also provided a set of standardized forms.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Which Healthcare Facilities are Required to Conduct TB Screening & Surveillance Activities?

The term "healthcare facility" in this manual includes all types of medical and/or healthcare facilities or healthcare settings in Nevada that are required under Nevada law to conduct TB screening and surveillance activities for healthcare workers (HCW) and residents/patients within their facilities. The full law can be found at http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-441A.html#NAC441ASec110 and http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-449.html#NRS449Sec0151.

NAC 441A.375 states that "Medical facilities, facilities for the dependent, homes for individual residential care and outpatient facilities" must conduct TB Screening and surveillance activities to include the "Management of cases and suspected cases; surveillance and testing of employees; counseling and preventive treatment."

NAC 441.380 states that before "admission of persons to certain medical facilities, facilities for the dependent or homes for individual residential care" TB activities must be completed of "Testing; respiratory isolation; medical treatment; counseling and preventive treatment; documentation."

Furthermore, a medical facility is defined by NRS 449.0151 to include the following 16 types of facilities:

- 1. A surgical center for ambulatory patients
- 2. An obstetric center
- 3. An independent center for emergency medical care
- 4. An agency to provide nursing in the home
- 5. A facility for intermediate care
- 6. A facility for skilled nursing
- 7. A facility for hospice care
- 8. A hospital
- 9. A psychiatric hospital
- 10. A facility for the treatment of irreversible renal disease
- 11. A rural clinic
- 12. A nursing pool
- 13. A facility for modified medical detoxification
- 14. A facility for refractive surgery
- 15. A mobile unit
- 16. A community triage center

What is the definition of Healthcare Worker as it pertains to the TB laws in NAC and NRS?

In this manual, the term "Healthcare Worker" (HCW) refers to the following categories as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It is the healthcare facility's responsibility to determine which groups should be included in their facility's infection control plan, as well as initial and annual TB Screening activities (pg. 3, MMWR, 2005).

- Administrators or managers
- Bronchoscopy staff
- Chaplains
- Clerical staff
- Computer programmers
- Construction staff
- Correctional officers
- Craft or repair staff
- Dental staff
- Dietician or dietary staff
- ED staff
- Engineers
- Food service staff
- Health aides
- Health and safety staff
- Homeless shelter staff
- Housekeeping or custodial staff
- Infection-control staff
- ICU staff
- Janitorial staff
- Laboratory staff
- Maintenance staff
- Morgue staff
- Nurses

- Outreach staff
- Pathology laboratory staff
- Patient transport staff, including EMS
- Pediatric staff
- Pharmacists
- Phlebotomists
- Physical and occupational therapists
- Physicians (assistant, attending, fellow, resident, or intern), including anesthesiologists, pathologists, psychiatrists, or psychologists
- Public health educators or teachers
- Public safety staff
- Radiology staff
- Respiratory therapists
- Scientists
- Social workers
- Students (e.g., medical, nursing, technicians, and allied health)
- Technicians (e.g., health, laboratory, radiology, and animal)
- Veterinarians
- Volunteers

In addition, a HCW who performs any of the following activities should also be included in the TB screening program:

- Entering patient rooms or treatment room whether or not a patient is present;
- Participating in aerosol-generating or aerosol producing procedures (e.g. bronchoscopy, sputum induction, and administration of aerosolized medications);
- Participating in suspected or confirmed *M. tuberculosis* specimen processing; or
- Installing, maintaining, or replacing environmental controls in areas in which persons with TB disease are encountered.

TUBERCULOSIS SCREENING VS. TUBERCULOSIS SURVEILLANCE

For clarification purposes, the DPBH's TB Program has differentiated screening and surveillance activities to be defined as follows.

Tuberculosis Screenings:

"TB screenings" include diagnostic tests that are used to diagnose TB disease. The most common TB screening test is the skin or blood test (TST or IGRA, respectively). The TST or IGRAs are given to a resident/patient upon admittance into a healthcare facility and to a healthcare worker before initial employment begins. Both residents/patients and healthcare workers should receive the TB tests on an annual basis, as well. TB screening activities may also include a medical evaluation, a chest X-ray or other diagnostic testing (NAC 441A.375 & 441A.380).

There may be instances when TB screening activities do not include an actual TB diagnostic test, but rather methods used to watch for the development of pulmonary symptoms. These non-testing TB screening methods will include the use of a *Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire*. A specific questionnaire has been created for Nevada's TB program and it is recommended that all healthcare facilities conducting their TB Surveillance activities with it. It can be found on pages 19-23 of this manual or at http://dpbh.nv.gov.

Tuberculosis Surveillance

"Tuberculosis Surveillance" is the ongoing systematic collection and analysis of TB data through mandatory case reporting by local laboratories and healthcare providers. The provision of data leads to action being taken to prevent and control TB disease. The data is reported in the form of morbidity reports or lab results and contain information on disease diagnosis or suspect diagnosis (results may be a positive TB skin test, laboratory results or abnormal chest X-rays). These positive tests are then confidentially sent to the appropriate local health authority (health district or state) for follow up and further investigation.

- When it is determined that an individual does have suspect TB or active TB, the local health authorities provide individual case management and treatment services. They also have the capabilities to conduct outbreak investigations, as needed.
- O There are several types of healthcare professionals that are required by Nevada law (NAC 441A.225-255) to report suspect or active cases to their local health authority:
 - Healthcare Providers;
 - Director or other person in charge of a medical laboratory;
 - Director or other person in charge of a medical facility or a correctional facility;
 - Parole Officer or Probation Officer;
 - Principal, Director or other person in charge of a school or child care facility;
 - Person in charge of a blood bank;
 - Registered pharmacist and intern pharmacist;
 - Health insurer who requires or requests an applicant for a policy of life insurance to be subjected to any medical, clinical or laboratory test that then produces evidence consistent with the presence of tuberculosis; and
 - Any person who reasonably suspects or knows that another person has tuberculosis and knows that the other person is not receiving healthcare services from a healthcare provider.

Which Nevada law(s) state that a healthcare facility must conduct annual TB screening and TB surveillance activities upon hire or admittance? <u>Healthcare</u> Workers

Below is an abbreviated excerpt of the TB law, NAC 441A.375 (the law for healthcare workers):

- 3. Before initial employment, a person employed in a medical facility, a facility for the dependent, a home for individual residential care or an outpatient facility shall have a:
 - b. Tuberculosis screening test within the preceding 12 months, including persons with a history of bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccination. If the employee has only completed the first step of a 2-step Mantoux tuberculin skin test within the preceding 12 months, then the second step of the 2-step Mantoux tuberculin skin test or other single-step tuberculosis screening test must be administered. A single annual tuberculosis screening test must be administered thereafter, unless the medical director of the facility or a designee thereof determines that the risk of exposure is appropriate for a lesser frequency of testing and documents that determination.
- 4. An employee with a documented history of a positive tuberculosis screening test is exempt from screening with skin tests or chest radiographs unless the employee develops symptoms suggestive of tuberculosis.
- 5. A person who demonstrates a positive tuberculosis screening test administered pursuant to subsection 3 shall submit to a chest radiograph and medical evaluation for active tuberculosis.
- 6. Counseling and preventive treatment must be offered to a person with a positive tuberculosis screening test in accordance with the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as adopted by reference in paragraph (g) of subsection 1 of NAC 441A.200.
- 7. A medical facility shall maintain surveillance of employees for the development of pulmonary symptoms. A person with a history of tuberculosis or a positive tuberculosis screening test shall report promptly to the infection control specialist, if any, or to the director or other person in charge of the medical facility if the medical facility has not designated an infection control specialist, when any pulmonary symptoms develop. If symptoms of tuberculosis are present, the employee shall be evaluated for tuberculosis.

Residents/Patients

Below is an abbreviated excerpt of the TB law, NAC 441A.380 (the law for residents/patients):

- 1. Before admitting a person to a medical facility for extended care the staff of the facility shall ensure that a chest radiograph of the person has been taken within 30 days preceding admission to the facility.
- 2. The staff of a facility for the dependent, a home for individual residential care or a medical facility for extended care, skilled nursing or intermediate care shall:
 - a) Before admitting a person to the facility or home, determine if the person: (1) Has had a cough for more than 3 weeks; (2) Has a cough which is productive; (3) Has blood in his or her sputum; (4) Has a fever which is not associated with a cold, flu or other apparent illness; (5) Is experiencing night sweats; (6) Is experiencing unexplained weight loss; or (7) Has been in close contact with a person who has active tuberculosis.
 - b) Within 24 hours after a person, including a person with a history of bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccination, is admitted to the facility or home, ensure that the person has a tuberculosis screening test.
 - c) If the person has only completed the first step of a two-step Mantoux tuberculin skin test within the 12 months preceding admission, ensure that the person has a second two-step Mantoux tuberculin skin test or other single-step tuberculosis screening test.
- 3. A person with a documented history of a positive tuberculosis screening test is exempt from skin testing and routine annual chest radiographs, but shall be evaluated at least annually.
- 4. If the staff of the facility or home determines that a person has had a cough for more than 3 weeks and that the person has one or more of the other symptoms described in paragraph (a) of subsection 2, the person may be admitted to the facility or home if the staff keeps the person in respiratory isolation.
- 5. If a test or evaluation indicates that a person has suspected or active tuberculosis, the staff of the facility or home shall not admit the person to the facility or home or, if he or she has already been admitted, shall not allow the person to remain in the facility or home, unless the facility or home keeps the person in respiratory isolation.
- 6. If a test indicates that a person who has been or will be admitted to a facility or home has active tuberculosis, the staff of the facility or home shall ensure that the person is treated for the disease.
- 7. The staff of the facility or home shall ensure that counseling and preventive treatment are offered to each person with a positive tuberculosis screening test.

EXCEPTIONS FOR TB ACTIVITIES

Are there exceptions in the Nevada TB law that state individuals can be exempt from TB testing (HCW or Resident/Patient)?

Yes, there are three common exceptions:

- 1. Upon initial employment or admittance into a healthcare facility, if there is valid written documentation of a one-step TST within the past 12 months then only the 2nd part of the two-step TST is required to be completed.
- 2. If an individual has a documented past allergic reaction to TST (TB Skin Test), then a blood test (e.g. QFT or T-spot) should be offered in place of the skin test.
- 3. If an individual has a documented history of past active TB or LTBI (LTBI regardless if treated or untreated).
 - Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire must be completed instead (see pages 19-23)
 - Chest X-ray should not be repeated unless individual has signs and symptoms of active TB (or if recommended by clinician)

Past BCG Vaccination is not a reason under the law to omit the TB test

*Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire MUST still be completed annually for anyone who has is exempt from the annual TB testing. This would include an individual with a positive TB test (whether they were treated or untreated for LTBI) or someone who has been treated for active TB disease.

Are there exceptions in the law that state a healthcare facility can do another TB screening activity besides annual TB testing for HCW and/or Residents/Patients?

Yes, there is an exception that is based on CDC guidance; however, the healthcare facility must annually complete the CDC's *Risk Assessment Worksheet* **AND** be classified as a "Low-Risk" facility under the CDC's *Risk Classification* designations.

Per NAC regarding annual TB testing, the CDC's *Risk Assessment Worksheet* must be kept on file each year (documented) and it must be reviewed and determined to be accurate by the medical director of the facility or a designee thereof. See full law below:

NAC 441A.375, 3 (b) A single annual tuberculosis screening test must be administered thereafter, unless the medical director of the facility or a designee thereof determines that the risk of exposure is appropriate for a lesser frequency of testing and documents that determination. The risk of exposure and corresponding frequency of examination must be determined by following the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as adopted by reference in paragraph (h) of subsection 1 of NAC 441A.200.

If a healthcare facility is determined to be low-risk after completing the CDC's *Risk Assessment Worksheet*, the facility <u>MUST</u> still complete a *Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire* for all individuals (HCW and Residents/Patients) who have tested positive in the past.

A healthcare facility with no medical director <u>MUST</u> complete annual TB testing and surveillance activities; the facility does not have the option to conduct a facility TB Risk Assessment.

IMPORTANT: The *Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire* **CANNOT** be self-completed. It should be completed by a staff person who has been trained to ask the questions or it can be filled out by the individual (HCW or resident/patient) however, a second staff person must review and sign off on it.

RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET & TIPS

Where can I find more information on the CDC's Healthcare Facility TB Risk Assessment and the processes to complete the worksheet?

If a healthcare facility/group home results in a Low-Risk Classification after completing their annual TB risk assessment, the healthcare facility can elect to not do the annual TB testing for their residents/patients and/or healthcare workers. However, TB screening would still need to be conducted annually for those healthcare workers or residents/patients who have LTBI. The nontesting TB screening activity that must be completed is assessing individuals for signs or symptoms of active TB disease. Healthcare facilities may utilize the *Nevada Tuberculosis Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire* found within this manual (see pages 19-23). A signs and symptoms questionnaire must be completed every year after the individual's positive TB test (documented two-step TST or IGRA blood test).

*For more information on the CDC's *Risk Assessment Worksheet*, *Risk Classification Form* or guidelines, please reference the 2005 MMWR entitled, "Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in Health-Care Settings, 2005" located on the web at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5417a1.htm. The Risk Assessment Worksheet is Appendix B and the Risk Classification Form is Appendix C.

Tips for Completing the CDC's Healthcare Facility TB Risk Assessment Worksheet

- 1. There is no specific space/questions on the *TB Risk Assessment Worksheet* for resident/patients. Healthcare Facilities can use this same form for both healthcare workers and resident/patients; a separate form is needed for each of the two groups as well as a new form is required to be completed every year.
- 2. A healthcare facility's risk classification is going to be either:
 - -Low-Risk
 - -Medium-Risk
 - -Ongoing Transmission
- 3. A healthcare facility may have more than one risk classification within their facility or network of facilities
 - This means, that more than one *Risk Assessment Worksheet* must be completed annually for each separate facility and/or departments. For example, a large hospital that has isolation rooms, an ER and a lab that manipulates sputum, will need to annually complete a separate Risk Assessment Worksheet for each of these departments.
- 4. The risk classification may change at any time during the year, and if it does change the healthcare facility should not wait for their annual TB risk assessment, but should assess the risk at that time (i.e., if there is ongoing transmission of TB)
- 5. All areas of the CDC's *Risk Assessment Worksheet* need to be filled out if the healthcare facility has that service/department
- 6. Documents must be completed by staff who are authorized to do so:
 - Medical provider licensed to conduct TB testing activities
 - Staff that are trained to complete a *Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire* (cannot self-report)
 - The CDC's *Risk Assessment Worksheet* can only be completed by a "Medical Director of the facility or a designee thereof" (NAC 441. 375)

Nevada Tuberculosis Testing Record Instructions

Complete the *TB Test Record* with the healthcare worker or resident/patient. Ensure all fields are completely filled out and that they are filled out correctly. Once completed, place in healthcare worker or resident/patient file.

If an individual tests positive, use the flowcharts (pages 24-27) of this manual to determine the next steps that must be taken.

The healthcare facility should record the date and include any supporting documentation (as needed) when they refer a healthcare worker and/or resident/patient for a chest X-ray, for education/counseling for LTBI treatment, or are reporting a suspect/active case to the health district.

Nevada TB Reporting Laws:

- NAC 441A.325 Compliance with provisions regarding particular communicable diseases. (NRS 441A.120) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a case or suspected case must be investigated, reported, prevented, suppressed and controlled in a manner consistent with the provisions of this chapter which are applicable to the particular communicable disease.
- NAC 441A.350 Healthcare provider to report certain cases and suspected cases within 24 hours of discovery. (NRS 441A.120) A healthcare provider shall notify the health authority within 24 hours of discovery of any case having active tuberculosis or any suspected case considered to have active tuberculosis who fails to submit to medical treatment or who
 - discontinues or fails to complete an effective course of medical treatment
 - is a child less than 5 years of age, regardless of whether the child has received a bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccination, who has shown a positive reaction to the Mantoux tuberculin skin test or other recognized diagnostic test

(New LTBI Reporting Requirement!) Effective October, 2015.

Nevada Tuberculosis Testing Record: Resident/Patient

The Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) regarding testing for Tuberculosis requires that a resident/patient be tested upon admittance into a healthcare facility/home within 24 hours; however, certain exceptions can be made. To review the approved exceptions, see **NAC 441A.380 (2b)** at http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-441A.html.

Residents or patients who are admitted into a healthcare facility must complete a TB screening test; either the two-step TB skin test (TST) or an approved TB screening blood test (IGRA: QFT or T-spot) (NAC 441A.380 2, 3). If the individual has a valid documented reaction to the TB skin test, they need to instead be offered a blood test.

If an individual has a previously documented positive TB screening test or a documented diagnosis of Tuberculosis (TB) or Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI regardless of treated or untreated), the facility should perform TB screening activities that includes the use of the following form instead of a TST or IGRA: *Nevada Tuberculosis Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire*. A repeat chest X-ray is only required if symptoms develop or it is recommended by a clinician (p. 51, www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr5417.pdf). A chest x-ray should not be used in place of the *Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire*.

If the resident/patient has a positive TB screening test, it is the facility's responsibility to provide Counseling and preventive treatment to the individual (NAC 441A.380, 7).

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Authorized Medical Screener's Signature:	Date:
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Resident/Patient	Nevada Tu	berculos	sis Testing Record:
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Nevada Tuberculosis Testing Record:

Healthcare Worker

Prior to employment the healthcare worker must complete a Tuberculosis (TB) screening test; either the two-step TB skin test (TST) or an approved TB screening blood test (IGRA: QFT or T-spot) **NAC 441A.375 (3b, 4)**. If the individual has a valid documented reaction to the TB skin test, they need to instead be offered a blood test.

If the healthcare worker has tested positive with a TB screening test, it is the healthcare facility's responsibility to provide counseling and preventive treatment to the individual (NAC 441A.375, 6).

If the healthcare worker has a previously documented positive TB screening test or a documented diagnosis of TB or LTBI (LTBI that was treated or untreated), the facility should perform annual TB screening activities that includes the use of the following form instead of the TST or IGRA: *Nevada Tuberculosis Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire*. A repeat chest X-ray is only required if symptoms develop or it is recommended by a clinician (p. 51, www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr5417.pdf) A chest X-ray should not be used in place of the *Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire*.

A healthcare worker who is a suspect case for Tuberculosis (tests positive for Tuberculosis or has tested positive in the past) may not begin work until he/she is deemed non-infectious, pursuant to NAC 441A.360 and NRS 441A.120

I understand the above information and consent to a two treatment and care as required by law. By doing this, I a mandates that a new healthcare worker in a healthcare to before initial employment and a completed two-step TE	am complying with NAC 441A.375 which facility must have a physical examination
Name:(Please Print)	Date of Birth:
Healthcare Worker's Signature:	Date:
Authorized Medical Screener's Signature:	Date:
Authorized Medical Screener's Name:	

		Testing Record:
F	lealthcare `	Worker
Date Test Given (mm/dd/yyyy): Site: Left Arm Right Arm	T	est Given by (Name of Individual/Facility):
Date Test Read (mm/dd/yyyy): Interpretation: Negative Positive		est Read by (Name of Individual/Facility):
	N	Measurement of Induration: (mm)
SECOND STEP OF THE TWO-STEP TB		
Date Test Given (mm/dd/yyyy): Site: Left Arm Right Arm	_	est Given by (Name of Individual/Facility):
Date Test Read (mm/dd/yyyy):	T	est Read by (Name of Individual/Facility):
Interpretation: Negative Positive		Ieasurement of Induration: (mm)
		nduration Guide: www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/LTBI/diagnosis.htm
BLOOD TEST (IGRA):		
Type of IGRA (T-spot or QFT):		ate Results Reported to Facility-by Lab or HCW mm/dd/yyyy):
Date Blood Drawn (mm/dd/yyyy):		
Blood Drawn by (Name of Individual/Facil		esults Reported to (Department Name and ndividual):
	Ir	nterpretation: Negative Positive
CHEST X-RAY (CXR):		
(The CXR should only be performed if indirule out active TB disease)	vidual has a po	sitive skin/blood test. The CXR is used to
NOTE: If active TB is suspected do CXR – do no	t wait for TST res	sult, may be false negative
Date of CXR (mm/dd/yyyy):	Ir	nterpretation: Normal Abnormal
		Abnormal, Date Referred for Medical valuation (mm/dd/yyyy):
LTBI OR ACTIVE TB DIAGNOSIS:		
LTBI: Date healthcare worker was referred	for and provide	ed LTBI education/information by healthcare facility
(mm/dd/yyyy):		
		d of suspect or active TB case pursuant to NAC 441. <i>fidential Morbidity Report</i> -Appendix B of Manual)
(mm/dd/yyyy):		
Last Name F	irst Name	DOB:

NEVADA TB SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS QUESTIONNAIRE INSTRUCTIONS

The *Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire* **CANNOT** be self-completed. It may be completed in one of two ways:

- 1. Conducted in an interviewer/interviewee manner where a staff person who has been trained to ask the questions is completing the form; or
- 2. Filled out by the individual (HCW or resident/patient); however, a second person (staff person who is authorized/trained to do so) must review and sign off on it.

Once the *Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire* is completed, reviewed/signed, it should be placed in the resident/patient or healthcare worker's file at the facility.

Nevada Tuberculosis Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire (Resident/Patient) Last Name ______ First Name _____ DOB: _____Age:____ Interpreter needed Yes No Language _____ Interpreter Name and Number _____ 1. Country of Birth **Notes related to assessment:** U.S. Other____ 2. If not born in the U.S.: When did the individual arrive in the U.S.? Month _____ Year _____ When was last BCG received? 3. Has the individual lived or traveled outside If YES, Where/When/How long: the U.S.? ☐ Yes ☐ No 4. Month & Year of last TST/IGRA Reason for TST/IGRA: (circle which test) Date: _____ **Results documented in file?** Yes No 5. Has the individual had a chest X-ray in last Reason for chest X-ray: five years? ☐ Yes ☐ No Year____ **Results documented in file?** Yes No 6. Has the individual been in close contact with If YES, Where/When/How long: a person sick with TB? ☐ Yes ☐ No 7. Has the individual ever been treated for TB? **Describe treatment and medications:** □ No □ Not sure □ Active TB □ LTBI Where: _____ Year ____ How Long? _____ 8. Does the individual currently have any of Specify any YES answers: these conditions? (check box for YES) Diabetes Hepatitis/Liver problems ☐ Immune system disorder \square Steroids for > than 2 weeks Immunosuppressant's for > than 2 weeks Organ transplant ☐ Gastrectomy bypass ☐ Silicosis or lung disease HIV infection/AIDS

☐ Had a live virus vaccine in the last 6 weeks? ☐ Chronic kidney failure/dialysis ☐ Rheumatoid arthritis ☐ NONE	
9. Current medications Yes No	Specify:
10. Does the individual have the following risk factors? (check box for YES) Been homeless or lived/worked in a shelter Lived/worked in a nursing home Been an inmate or worked in a jail/prison Worked in the healthcare field Alcohol use Recreational drug use: Smokes Consumed unpasteurized milk products NONE	Specify any YES answers:
11. Does the individual have any of the following symptoms? (check box for YES) Cough > three weeks Fevers Night Sweats Fatigue Cother Cother Veight Usual Average Weight: Weight Today: NONE	Specify any YES answers:
12. Currently pregnant? Yes No Plan to breastfeed? Yes No	
blood test) to comply with NAC 441A.380 which	Symptoms Questionnaire (in place of a TB skin test or states, "After a person has had an initial tuberculosis the person has a single tuberculosis screening test annually
am not allowed to be admitted into the facility or hor	or home, unless I am kept in respiratory isolation, and theare provider determines that I do not have active
By signing this document, I agree the information I has knowledge, and I consent to any necessary tests and consent to any treatment and care prescribed to me as	evaluations to rule out active tuberculosis and also
Resident or Patient Signature: (or Authorized Representative's Signature)	Date:
Authorized Medical Screener's Signature:	Date:
Authorized Medical Screener's Name:	

Nevada Tuberculosis Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire (Healthcare Worker) Last Name _____ First Name _____ DOB: ____ Age:____ 1. Country of birth: **Notes related to assessment:** US Other 2. If not born in the U.S.: When did the individual arrive in the U.S.? Month _____ Year ____ When was last BCG received? 3. Has the individual lived or traveled outside If YES, Where/When/How long: the U.S.? Yes No 4. Month & Year of last TST/IGRA Reason for TST/IGRA: (circle which test) Date: _____ **Results documented in file?** Yes No 5. Has the individual had a chest X-ray in last Reason for chest X-ray: five years? Yes No Year____ **Results documented in file?** Yes No 6. Has the individual been in close contact with If YES, Where/When/How long: a person sick with TB? Yes No 7. Has the individual ever been treated for TB? **Describe treatment and medications:** Not sure Active TB LTBI Where: _____ Year _____ How Long? _____ 8. Does the individual <u>currently</u> have any of **Specify any YES answers:** these conditions? (check box for YES) Diabetes Hepatitis/Liver problems Immune system disorder Steroids for > than 2 weeks Immunosuppressant's for > than 2 weeks Organ transplant Gastrectomy bypass Silicosis or lung disease HIV infection/AIDS Had a live virus vaccine in the last 6 weeks? Chronic kidney failure/dialysis

☐ Rheumatoid arthritis ☐ NONE		
9. Current medications Yes No	Specify:	
10. Does the individual have the following risk factors? (check box for YES) Been homeless or lived/worked in a shelter Lived/worked in a nursing home Been an inmate or worked in a jail/prison Worked in the healthcare field Alcohol use Recreational drug use: Smokes Consumed unpasteurized milk products NONE	Specify any YES answers:	
11. Does the individual have any of the following symptoms? (check box for YES) Cough > three weeks Fevers Sight Sweats Cother Cother Loss of Appetite Cother Veight Usual Average Weight: Weight Today: NONE	Specify any YES answers:	
12. Currently pregnant? Yes No Plan to breastfeed? Yes No		
I understand I am completing this annual <i>Signs and</i> skin test or blood test) to comply with NAC 441A "Before initial employment" and "A single annua thereafter."	.375 which states that TB screeni	ng must take place
I understand that with a positive TB test, when any p 441A.375 to immediately report to the infection cont		
By signing this document, I agree the information I has knowledge, and I consent to any necessary tests and consent to any treatment and care prescribed to me as	evaluations to rule out active Tuber	
Healthcare Worker's Signature:		Date:
Authorized Medical Screener's Signature:		Date:
Authorized Medical Screener's Name:		

Resident/Patient

Tuberculosis Flowchart

All residents/patients must receive a two-step TST (skin test) or the IGRA (blood test) before being admitted into the facility, regardless of the facility's annual Risk Assessment determination.

INSTRUCTIONS

Follow the flowchart to determine the actions to be taken for each new resident/patient.

(If resident/patient has documented 1st step of TST in prior 12 months, proceed to "2nd Step TST" below)

*If resident/patient has had two-step TST or the IGRA test completed in prior 12 months **AND** has <u>valid documentation of negative TB result</u>, no further test or evaluation is needed before admittance.

*If resident/patient has <u>valid documentation of past positive TB test</u>, use the "Nevada Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire" to rule out active TB (pages 20-21 of Manual). Further testing or evaluation may be needed.

Symptoms

- ➤ Night sweats
- ➤ Chills
- ➤ Cough-progresses in frequency & production of mucous
- ➤ Hemoptysis, chest pain
- ➤ Fatigue
- Extreme weight loss
- ➤ Fever

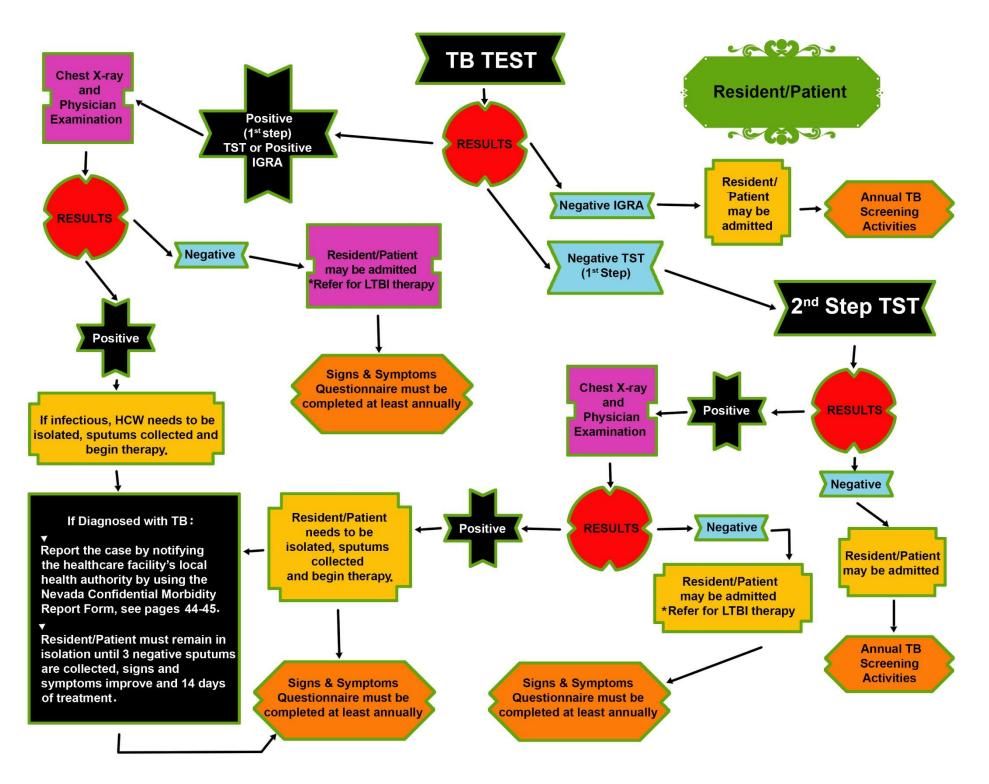
Testing/Retesting Frequency

- ➤ On admittance
- ➤ Annually
- ➤ Post exposure
- ➤ If individual becomes symptomatic
- ➤ Determination of facility's Medical Director

At least annually, the healthcare facility must complete TB screening activities which can include TB tests, the signs and symptoms questionnaire and/or the facility's annual Risk Assessment Worksheet.

TB screening activities may be determined based on the facility's annual Risk Assessment Classification; however the Signs and Symptom Questionnaires MUST still be completed for any individual with a positive TB test.

Note: A repeat chest x-ray is not required along with the Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire, unless there are reported signs or symptoms of active disease, or it is recommended by a clinician.



HealthCare Worker (HCW)

Tuberculosis Flowchart

All HCW must receive a two-step TST (skin test) or the IGRA (blood test) before employment activities begin, regardless of the facility's annual Risk Assessment determination.

*Healthcare Workers (HCW) transferring from one healthcare facility to another, will need further assessment. (For CDC guidance, refer to pages 12-13 of the "Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in Health-Care Settings, 2005," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5417a1.htm.)

INSTRUCTIONS:

Follow the flowchart to determine the actions to be taken for each new Healthcare Worker (HCW)

(If HCW has documented 1st step of TST in prior 12 months, proceed to "2nd Step TST" below)

*If HCW has had physical exam and two-step TST or the IGRA test completed in prior 12 months **AND** has <u>valid documentation of negative TB result</u>, no further test or evaluation is needed before HCW's start date

*If HCW has <u>valid documentation of past positive TB test</u>, use the "Nevada Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire" to rule out active TB (page 22-23 of Manual). Further testing or evaluation may be needed.

Symptoms

- ➤ Night sweats
- ➤ Chills
- ➤ Cough-progresses in frequency & production of mucous
- ➤ Hemoptysis, chest pain
- ➤ Fatigue
- Extreme weight loss
- **≻** Fever

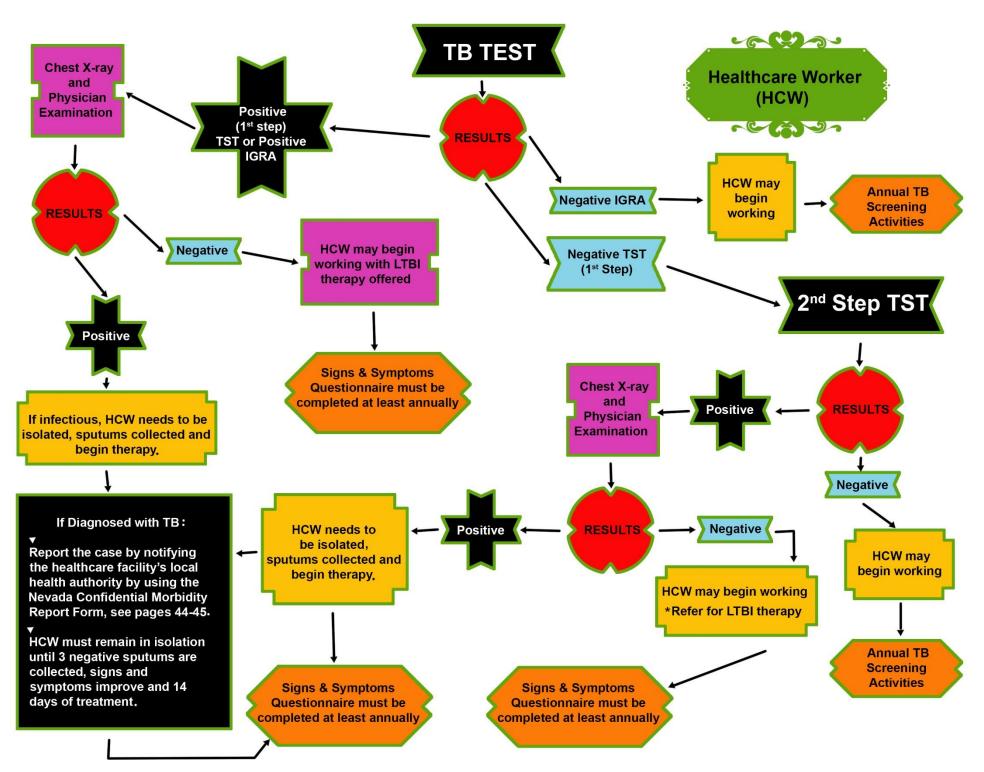
Testing/Retesting Frequency

- ➤ On admittance
- ➤ Annually
- ➤ Post exposure
- ➤ If individual becomes symptomatic
- > Determination of facility's Medical Director

At least annually, the healthcare facility must complete TB screening activities which can include TB tests, the signs and symptoms questionnaire and/or the facility's annual Risk Assessment Worksheet.

TB screening activities may be determined based on the facility's annual Risk Assessment Classification; however the Signs and Symptom Questionnaires MUST still be completed for any individual with a positive TB test.

Note: A repeat chest x-ray is not required along with the Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire, unless there are reported signs or symptoms of active disease, or it is recommended by a clinician.



COMMON TB ACRONYMS

(Taken from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website and publications, 2013, http://www.cdc.gov/tb/.)

Refer to the list below for abbreviations used in this manual.

AII Airborne infection isolation

BCG Bacille Calmette-Guérin

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CXR Chest radiograph (chest X-ray)

HCW Healthcare worker

IGRA Interferon gamma release assay

LTBI Latent tuberculosis infection

M. tb *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

MDR-TB Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis

MIRU Mycobacterial interspersed repetitive units

MOTT Mycobacterium other than tuberculosis

NAA Nucleic acid amplification

PPD Purified protein derivative

QFT QuantiFERON®-TB test

RIF Rifampin

TB Tuberculosis

TST Tuberculin skin test

TB TERMINOLOGY

(Taken from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website and publications, 2013, http://www.cdc.gov/tb/.)

Tuberculosis (TB)

Tuberculosis is a condition caused by *Mycobacterium* tuberculosis (or M. tuberculosis) that has progressed to causing clinical or subclinical disease. TB disease usually affects the lungs, but it can also affect other parts of the body, such as the lymph nodes, bone, or brain. If TB is treated properly, most people can be cured. If TB is NOT treated properly, the disease can be fatal or develop into drug-resistant forms of TB. Compare to latent TB infection (LTBI). See also extrapulmonary TB and pulmonary TB.

Airborne Infection Isolation (AII)

Isolation of patients infected with organisms that are spread via airborne droplet nuclei smaller than five microns in diameter (e.g., M. tuberculosis).

Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) Vaccine

A vaccine for TB used in many countries where active TB disease is endemic. It is not used in the United States. BCG vaccine helps prevent disseminated and meningeal TB disease in infants and young children, but offers much less protection for adults.

Baseline TB Screening

The initial screening for TB performed at the time that an individual begin work or residents are admitted to a healthcare facility. Baseline screening identifies individuals with LTBI or active TB disease and is also used to compare with any future screening results. See also TB screening.

Chest X-ray (chest radiograph)

This is a diagnostic test that takes a picture of the inside of a person's chest. A chest X-ray is made by exposing a film to X-rays that pass through the chest. A doctor can look at this film to see whether TB bacteria have damaged the lungs.

Contact

A person who has spent time with a person with infectious TB

Culture

A culture is a test that is processed in a laboratory to see whether there are TB bacteria in a person's phlegm or other body fluids. This test can take 2 to 4 weeks in most laboratories.

Exposure

Being subjected to something (e.g., an infectious agent) that could have an adverse health effect. A person exposed to *M. tuberculosis* does not necessarily become infected. (See also transmission)

Extrapulmonary TB

Active TB disease in any part of the body other than the lungs (e.g., lymph nodes, bone). An individual can have both pulmonary and extrapulmonary TB disease at the same time. Extrapulmonary TB is typically not considered infectious.

Healthcare Facility

A place where healthcare is delivered.

Healthcare Facility TB Risk Assessment

An initial and ongoing evaluation of the risk for transmission of *M. tuberculosis* in a particular healthcare setting. To perform a risk assessment, the following factors should be considered: the community rate of TB, number of TB patients encountered in the setting, and the speed at which patients with active TB disease are suspected, isolated, and evaluated. The Healthcare Facility TB Risk Assessment determines the types of administrative and environmental controls and respiratory protection needed for a setting.

Healthcare Workers (HCW)

All paid and unpaid persons working in healthcare settings who have the potential for exposure to *M. tuberculosis* through airspace shared with persons with TB disease.

Hemoptysis

Coughing up of blood or blood-tinged sputum; one of the possible symptoms of pulmonary TB disease. Hemoptysis can also be observed in other pulmonary conditions (e.g., lung cancer).

Induration

A palpable, raised, hardened area that may develop in response to the injection of tuberculin antigen (PPD). Induration is measured in only one direction (across the forearm), and the result is recorded in millimeters. The measurement is compared with guidelines to determine whether the test result is classified as positive or negative.

Infection Control

Infection control refers to policies and procedures used to minimize the risk of spreading infections, especially in hospitals and human or animal healthcare facilities.

Infection Control Specialist

The staff person responsible for implementing and adhering to a facility's infection control plan (policies and procedures) with the goal of reducing the transmission of diseases.

Infectious

The ability of an individual with active TB disease to transmit (spread) TB bacteria to other persons. Directly related to the number of TB bacteria that the individual expels into the air. Persons who expel many bacilli are more infectious than those who expel few or no bacilli.

Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA)

A test that detects the presence of *M. tuberculosis* infection by measuring the immune response to the TB bacteria in the blood. There are two commercially available IGRAs: QuantiFERON-TB and T-Spot.

Latent TB Infection (LTBI)

Persons with latent TB infection have *M. tuberculosis* organisms in their bodies but do not have active TB disease, have no symptoms, and are noninfectious. Such persons usually have a positive reaction to a TST or IGRA.

Mantoux Tuberculin Skin Test

see Tuberculin Skin Test

Medical Evaluation

A process for diagnosing active TB disease or LTBI, selecting treatment, and assessing response to therapy. A medical evaluation can include medical history and TB symptom screen, clinical or physical examination, screening and diagnostic tests (e.g., TSTs, IGRAs, chest X-rays, bacteriologic examination, and HIV testing), counseling, and treatment referrals.

Multidrug-resistant TB (MDR TB)

TB disease caused by bacteria resistant to two or more of the most important medicines: INH and RIF.

Mycobacterium Tuberculosis (M. tuberculosis or M. tb)

A type of tuberculosis mycobacteria; a gram-positive bacterium that causes tuberculosis. Sometimes called the tubercle bacillus.

Negative

Usually refers to a test result. If you have a negative TB skin test reaction, you probably do not have TB infection.

Positive

Usually refers to a test result. If you have a positive TB skin test reaction, you probably have TB infection.

Potential/Ongoing Transmission

A risk classification for TB screening, including testing for *M. tuberculosis* infection when evidence of ongoing transmission of *M. tuberculosis* is apparent in the setting. Testing might need to be performed every 8–10 weeks until lapses in infection controls have been corrected and no further evidence of ongoing transmission is apparent. Use potential ongoing transmission as a temporary risk classification only. After corrective steps are taken and conversion rates stabilize, reclassify the setting as medium risk for a period of at least one year.

Pulmonary TB

Active TB disease that occurs in the lung, usually producing a cough that lasts ≥ 3 weeks.

Purified Protein-Derivative (PPD) (tuberculin)

A material used in the tuberculin skin test (TST) for detecting infection with *M. tuberculosis*. In the United States, PPD solution is approved for administration as an intradermal injection (5 TU per 0.1 mL), a diagnostic aid for LTBI (see Tuberculin Skin Test).

Respiratory Protection

The use of N-95 or other respirators to protect a HCW from inhaling droplet nuclei containing *M. tuberculosis*.

Serial TB screening

TB screening performed at regular intervals following initial baseline TB screening.

Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire

A signs and symptoms questionnaire asks tuberculosis related health questions as a screening tool to identify individuals who may be symptomatic for active TB.

Smear

A test to see whether there are TB bacteria in your phlegm. To do this test, lab workers smear the phlegm on a glass slide, stain the slide with a special stain, and look for any TB bacteria on the slide. This test usually takes 1 day to get the results.

Sputum

Sputum is phlegm coughed up from deep inside the lungs. Sputum is examined for TB bacteria using a smear; part of the sputum can also be used to do a culture.

Suspected or confirmed infectious or potentially infectious TB disease

Means any of the following: 1) A patient with a smear positive for AFB and/or nucleic acid amplification test positive for *M. Tb* and/or a culture positive for *M. Tb* or *M. Tb* complex (this applies only to specimens from sputum, bronchioalveolar lavage, gastric aspirate, lung tissue or other tissue of the respiratory tract such as the larynx or epiglottis); 2) A patient with a chest radiograph, computed tomography scan, or clinical findings indicative of pulmonary tuberculosis sufficient to warrant treatment with anti-tuberculosis medications; 3) A patient whose chest radiograph or respiratory symptoms improve while taking anti-tuberculosis medication; or 4) A patient with respiratory symptoms indicative of pulmonary tuberculosis until a diagnostic evaluation is completed to rule out TB as a cause of these symptoms.

Suspected or confirmed TB disease

An illness in which TB bacteria are multiplying and attacking a part of the body, usually the lungs. The symptoms of TB disease include weakness, weight loss, fever, no appetite, chills, and sweating at night. Other symptoms of TB disease depend on where in the body the bacteria are growing. If TB disease is in the lungs (pulmonary TB), the symptoms may include a bad cough, pain in the chest, and coughing up blood. A person with TB disease may be infectious and spread TB bacteria to others.

Means one or more of the following: 1) A patient meeting the definition of suspected or confirmed infectious or potentially infectious TB disease; 2) A patient with a smear positive for AFB and/or nucleic acid amplification test positive for *M. tuberculosis* and/or a culture positive for *M. tuberculosis* or *M. tuberculosis* complex from a location outside the respiratory tract; 3) A patient with extra-pulmonary clinical findings indicative of tuberculosis sufficient to prescribe treatment with anti-tuberculosis medications; 4) A patient whose extra-pulmonary symptoms improve on anti-tuberculosis medications; or 5) A patient with symptoms indicative of extra-pulmonary tuberculosis until a diagnostic evaluation is completed to rule out TB as the cause of these symptoms.

Symptom Screen

A procedure used during a clinical evaluation in which patients are asked if they have experienced any of the common symptoms of active TB disease (e.g., cough, weight loss, night sweats).

TB Blood Test

see IGRA

TB Disease – (active TB)

The *M. tuberculosis* bacteria is present in the body and the individual has signs/symptoms of being infectious. While individual is infectious they can spread the *M. tuberculosis* bacteria to others.

TB Screening

The TB screenings employ methods to identify persons who have active TB disease or LTBI. May include one or more of the following: TST, IGRA, chest X-ray, or signs and symptoms questionnaires.

Transmission of *M. tuberculosis*

Transmission occurs when a person inhales droplet nuclei containing *M. tuberculosis*, and the droplet nuclei transverse the mouth or nasal passages, upper respiratory tract, and bronchi to reach the alveoli of the lungs, resulting in infection.

Tuberculin Skin Test (TST)

The TST is a skin test used to detect TB infection. It is sometimes referred to as "PPD" or "Mantoux."

Two-Step TST

The two-step TST is a procedure used for the baseline skin testing of persons who will receive serial TSTs (e.g., HCW and residents of long term care facilities) to reduce the likelihood of mistaking a boosted reaction for a new infection. If an initial TST result is classified as negative, a second step of a two-step TST should be administered 1–3 weeks after the first TST result was read. If the second TST result is positive, it probably represents a boosted reaction, indicating infection most likely occurred in the past and not recently. If the second TST result is also negative, the person is classified as not infected.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

For additional information and guidance on the Tuberculosis topics of skin or blood tests, treatment for LTBI, healthcare facility TB risk assessment, environmental controls, respiratory protection, and cough-inducing and aerosol-generating procedures, please refer to the following CDC published document: "Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in Health-Care Settings, 2005," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* [54(RR17):1-141, December 30, 2005], http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr.

Please note, the questions/answers listed below are either recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from the *MMWR* 2005 listed above or are requirements by the Nevada TB program based on the laws in the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) and Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS).

1. What is the relationship between the State of Nevada's Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) bureau and healthcare facilities in Nevada?

Health Care Quality and Compliance is the government bureau for the state of Nevada that licenses medical and other health facilities in Nevada in accordance with NRS (Nevada Revised Statutes) Chapter 449 and with NAC (Nevada Administrative Code) Chapter 449. HCQC also has an agreement with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to certify medical facilities and providers and skilled nursing facilities in Nevada in the Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement programs. Surveys (inspections) are conducted in accordance with applicable regulations (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42), based on the type of facility, and following specific time frames and procedures. The Bureau also conducts complaint investigations for all licensed and/or certified facilities. (http://health.nv.gov/HCQC_HealthFacilities.htm)

2. What does the word "annual" mean in annual TB screenings?

The word "annual" in Annual TB screenings means that the TB screening activity should be completed each year. Ideally, it would be within 365 days; however, within the end of the hire month every year after the initial pre-employment screening is also acceptable. For example, to be in compliance with Nevada regulations, a person screened on July 10^{th} , would be required to complete their annual retest (both the administration of the test and results reported) on or before July 31^{st} of the following year.

3. What does the term "initial employment" mean related to TB screening activities for healthcare facilities?

The annual TB screening must occur before "initial employment" which means that the healthcare worker must have the TB screening test administered and results reported of non-active TB disease before the healthcare worker may start any employment activities.

4. What should an individual do if they cannot have the TST completed/are allergic to the test?

If someone cannot have the skin test performed because of a past adverse reaction and/or has had a past positive skin test or IGRA test, they must show proof of the past test and can then proceed with being evaluated by a medical professional or the agency's Medical Director by answering the *Nevada Tuberculosis Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire*. The purpose of a signs and symptoms questionnaire is to rule out active TB for individuals who have in the past tested positive or have been treated for TB.

An individual stating that they are allergic to the TB skin test, must still do a TB test and should be presented with a blood test option. An individual that says they have had a BCG vaccine before will still need to either show a documented history of their TB results and then do the *Signs & Symptoms Questionnaire* OR they will have to do the skin or blood test again if they have no records of a past positive result.

5. What does the term "documentation history" mean in related to TB?

The definition of "documentation history" in the context of tuberculosis in the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) is defined as a written copy from a qualified licensed healthcare professional, hospital, clinic, or laboratory of the positive TB skin test or blood test results and all abnormal associated chest X-rays. Also any past *Signs and Symptoms Questionnaires* should be provided to employer/facility and kept in the individual's records.

- The language in the NAC 441A, regarding the phrase "documented history" means that all residents, patients, inmates and healthcare workers will need to have a TB skin or blood test unless they have a written copy from a qualified licensed medical professional/clinic/hospital/laboratory stating that the individual has a past positive TB test result or the Signs and Symptoms Questionnaire. The individual should also provide the chest X-ray that was completed at the time the positive TB test was acknowledged. If the individual has had treatment in the past for TB, they need to provide the healthcare or correctional facility those records as well.
- Furthermore, "documented history" means all past signs and symptoms
 questionnaires, positive TB skin test records, blood or lab records, chest X-rays
 and treatment records (if they had treatment).
- 6. How long after a TST or IGRA blood test should a chest X-ray be completed? CDC guidelines state that a chest X-ray should be completed "within a reasonable time frame, such as 6 months" (page 10 of MMWR December 30, 2005). The CDC guidelines clarifies in the FAQs section of the MMWR, 2005 (page 3) that the reasonable time frame of 6 months is an example-a shorter time frame may be necessary based on the treating physician's decisions. Therefore a healthcare facility may have a stricter policy in-place regarding a shorter time span that a chest X-ray is valid for or they may state that it is based on the treating provider's decision.

7. Should an individual with a positive TST or IGRA receive periodic chest X-rays?

Periodic chest X-rays are not needed for healthcare workers or residents/patients to rule out active TB. Refer to the CDC guidelines on the correct usage of chest X-rays as a TB screening activity. (MMWR 2005)

8. Should individuals who report they have had a positive TST result or have been previously treated for LTBI or TB disease receive the baseline two-step TST before beginning work or being admitted into the facility?

Unless the individual has documentation of the positive TST result or previous treatment, they should receive baseline two-step testing before starting duties. If documentation is available of a positive TST result, that result can be considered as the baseline TST result for the HCW at the new setting, and additional testing is not needed. (MMWR 2005)

9. Should individuals transferring from one healthcare facility to another, do another two-step testing?

A two-step TB test is <u>usually</u> not needed when a healthcare worker transfers from one facility to another; however, depending on the situation it may be required: see *Use of Risk Classification to Determine Need for TB Screening and Frequency of Screening HCW* on page 80 of the MMWR December 30, 2005. (MMWR 2005).

10. Do healthcare workers that work in a personal care/in-home setting, have to receive the two-step TB test?

Yes. Ideally, all HCW who do not have a previously documented positive TST result or treated LTBI/TB disease should receive two-step baseline skin testing in settings that have elected to use TST for screening. Baseline testing for *M. tuberculosis* infection will ensure that TB disease or LTBI is detected before employment begins and treatment for LTBI or TB disease is offered, if indicated. (*MMWR* 2005)

11. What is the bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine?

BCG is the most commonly used vaccine in the world and is used to delay the onset of TB disease. BCG may cause a positive TST (i.e., false-positive) result initially; however, tuberculin reactivity caused by BCG vaccination typically wanes after 5 years but can be boosted by subsequent TST. No reliable skin test method has been developed to distinguish tuberculin reactions caused by vaccination with BCG from reactions caused by natural mycobacterial infections, although TST reactions of ≥ 20 mm of induration are not usually caused by BCG. (MMWR 2005)

12. What type of TB test should be given to an individual who recently had the BCG vaccine?

A TST may be placed any time after a BCG vaccination, but a positive TST result after a recent BCG vaccination can be a false-positive result. QFT-G should be used, because the assay test avoids cross reactivity with BCG. (MMWR 2005)

13. Do I need a two-step TB test again if I lapsed with my annual TB test and my employer has not changed?

No, two-step TSTs are needed only to establish a baseline for a specific setting for newly hired HCW and others who will receive serial TST (e.g., residents or staff of correctional facilities or LTCFs). The HCW should have a single TST or BAMT upon returning to work and should then resume a routine testing schedule on the next normal TST anniversary date. (MMWR 2005)

14. Can I receive a TST if other vaccines are also being placed at the same time?

A TST should be administered either on the same day as vaccination with live virus or 4–6 weeks later. Vaccines that might cause a false-negative TST result are measles, varicella, yellow fever, smallpox, BCG, mumps, rubella, oral polio, oral typhoid, and live-attenuated influenza. (MMWR 2005)

15. Can a healthcare worker or patient read and report their own TST results?

HCW and patients are not allowed to read and report their own TST results; therefore, self-reading cards for reporting TST results are not recommended. All TST results should be read and recorded by a trained TST reader other than the person on whom the TST was placed. (MMWR 2005)

16. Who should be treated for LTBI?

Persons with LTBI who are at increased risk for developing TB disease should be offered treatment for LTBI regardless of age, if they have no contraindication to the medicine. (MMWR 2005)

17. What is the preferred treatment regimen for LTBI?

Nine months of daily INH is the preferred treatment regimen for patients who have LTBI. The 6-month regimen of INH or the 4-month regimen of rifampin are also acceptable alternatives. (*MMWR* 2005) Additionally, in 2011 the CDC approved a new 12 week treatment regimen that may be an option for some LTBI cases. (*MMWR*, December 9, 2011)

18. What is an Airborne Infection Isolation (AII) room?

"AII room" is an accepted term and is used in the American Institute of Architects (AIA) guidelines that describe the purpose for and details of ventilation of AII rooms. An AII room is a special negative-pressure room for the specific purpose of isolating persons who might have suspected or confirmed infectious TB disease from other parts of the setting. Not all negative-pressure rooms are AII rooms, because they might not have the required air flow or differential pressure of an AII room. For a hospital with 120 beds, a minimum of one AII room is needed. (MMWR 2005)

19. What is a fit test and who does fit testing?

A fit test is used to determine which respirator does or does not fit the user adequately and to ensure that the user knows when the respirator fits properly. Fit testing must be performed by a qualified health professional. Fit testing should be performed during the initial respiratory-protection program training and periodically thereafter, based on the healthcare facility TB risk assessment for the setting and in accordance with applicable federal, state, or local regulations. Periodic fit testing for respirators used in TB environments can serve as an effective training tool in conjunction with the content included in employee training and retraining. The frequency of fit testing should be determined by a change in the 1) risk for transmission of *M. tuberculosis*, 2) facial features of the wearer, 3) medical condition that would affect respiratory function, 4) physical characteristics of the respirator (despite the same model number), or 5) model or size of the assigned respirator. (*MMWR* 2005)

20. Should a healthcare worker perform a user-seal check ("fit check") on a respirator before each use when encountering an individual who is suspect, for or actively, has TB?

Yes, performing a user-seal check on respirators before each use is essential to minimize contaminant leakage into the face piece. Each respirator manufacturer has a recommended user-seal check procedure that should be followed by the user each time the respirator is worn. Additionally, the recommended respiratory protection for HCW who provide care in the homes of patients with suspected or confirmed infectious TB disease is at least an N95 respirator. (MMWR 2005)

21. What is the procedure for a newly hired HCW with a documented negative TST at their previous job within the last 12 months?

This person should receive one baseline TST upon hire (ideally before the HCW begins assigned duties). The negative TST result from the 3 months preceding new employment (or a documented negative TST result anytime within the previous 12 months) should be considered the first step of the baseline two-step TST. If the HCW does not have documentation of any TST result, the HCW should be tested with baseline two-step TST (one TST upon hire and one TST placed 1–3 weeks after the first TST result was read). (MMWR 2005)

TWO-STEP TB SKIN TEST (3 VS. 4 VISIT APPROACH)

The two-step TB skin tests (TST) have two different approaches. Either one is acceptable to the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health's TB program and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Note: The two-step test is NOT the usual TST in which an individual receives an injection of PPD (purified protein derivative) and the test area is observed at a specific time frame, only once. The two-step TST includes two separate skin tests and is used to detect individuals with past TB infection who now have diminished skin test reactivity. This procedure reduces the likelihood that a boosted reaction is later interpreted as a new infection.

Common Questions when administering/reading the TST

- Q. When performing two-step skin testing, what should be done if the second-step TST is not placed in 1–3 weeks?
- A. Perform the second-step TST as soon as possible, even if several months have passed.
- Q. If a person does not return for a TST reading within 48–72 hours, when can a TST be placed on them again?
- A. A TST can be administered again as soon as possible. If the second step of a two-step TST is not read within 48–72 hours, administer a third test as soon as possible (even if several months have elapsed), and ensure that the result is read within 48–72 hours.
- Q. Should a TST reading of ≥ 10 mm be accepted 7 days after the TST was placed?
- **A.** If the TST was not read between 48–72 hours, another TST should be placed as soon as possible and read within 48–72 hours. However, certain studies indicate that positive TST reactions might still be measurable 4–7 days after the TST was placed. If the TST reaction is read as ≥15 mm 7 days after placement, the millimeter result can be recorded and considered to be a positive result.

For more information and supporting guidance for the questions listed above, please reference the following CDC document: "Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in Health-Care Settings, 2005," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* [54(RR17):1-141, December 30, 2005], http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr.

The Three Visit Approach

Visit 1, Day 1

The first skin test is applied and the individual returns in 7 days for the test to be read. If the first test is positive, it indicates that the individual is infected with TB. A chest X-ray and evaluation are necessary. If the individual is asymptomatic and the chest X-ray indicates no active disease, the individual can enter patient care areas.

Visit 2, Day 7

A second skin test is applied on individuals whose first test was negative at 7 days.

Visit 3, Day 9 or 10

The second test is read. A positive test 2nd test indicates TB infection in the distant past.

The individual is referred for a chest X-ray and evaluation by a physician. An asymptomatic individual, whose chest X-ray indicates no active disease, may enter patient care areas.

The majority of significant PPD skin test reactions will remain "positive" for 7 days after application. Those that have diminished or disappeared by day 7 will be boosted back to positive by the 2nd skin test. Reducing the number of visits from 4 to 3 will not reduce the sensitivity of the two-step test.

The Four Visit Approach

Visit 1, Day 1

The TST antigen is applied under the skin.

Visit 2, Day 3

The TST test is read. If the first test is positive, it indicates that the individual is infected with TB. A chest X-ray and evaluation are necessary. If the individual is asymptomatic and the chest X-ray indicates no active disease, the individual can enter patient care areas.

Visit 3, Day 7

A second TST skin test is applied to those individuals in whom the TST skin test is negative.

Visit 4, Day 9

The second test is read. A positive 2nd test indicates TB infection in the distant past.

The individual is referred for a chest X-ray and evaluation by a physician. An asymptomatic individual whose chest X-ray indicates no active disease may enter patient care areas.

For those individuals who were vaccinated against TB with the BCG vaccine, they still can be tested with TST after a 3-5 year period after the BCG vaccination. Positive TST tests at this point could indicate TB infection. Thus, a chest X-ray is necessary.

APPENDIX A: NEVADA TB LAWS

The specific laws listed below are the tuberculosis related definitions and testing, reporting and surveillance activities providers/healthcare facilities and/or correctional facilities are mandated to conduct per the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC).

For more detailed information reference the following website: Chapter 441A – Infectious diseases; toxic agents. NAC 441A. (Revised Date: 2012, January). Retrieved from http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Nac/NAC-441A.

NAC	TITLE
GENERAL PRO	VISIONS – Definitions
NAC 441A.015	"Active tuberculosis" defined
NAC 441A.035	"Case" defined
NAC 441A.037	"Centers for Disease Control and Prevention" defined
NAC 441A.040	"Communicable disease" defined
NAC 441A.045	"Contact" defined
NAC 441A.050	"Contact isolation" defined
NAC 441A.052	"Contact precautions" defined
NAC 441A.055	"Correctional facility" defined
NAC 441A.060	"Disease specific precautions" defined
NAC 441A.165	"Respiratory isolation" defined
NAC 441A.175	"Strict isolation" defined
NAC 441A.180	"Suspected case" defined
NAC 441A.181	"Suspected outbreak" defined
NAC 441A.185	"Tuberculosis" defined
NAC 441A.190	"Tuberculosis Infection" defined
NAC 441A.192	"Tuberculosis screening test" defined
NAC 441A.195	"Universal precautions" defined
NAC 441A.200	List of adopted recommendations, guidelines and publications; review of revision or amendment of adopted recommendation, guideline or publication
	F COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
NAC 441A.225	General requirements for certain reports to health authority and rabies control authority; establishment of after-hours reporting system
NAC 441A.230	Duty of healthcare provider to report case or suspected case; content of report
NAC 441A.235	Duty of director or other person in charge of medical laboratory to report findings of communicable disease, causative agent of communicable disease or immune response to causative agent; contents of report; submission of certain microbiologic cultures, subcultures, or other specimen or clinical material; reportable level of CD4 lymphocyte counts
NAC 441A.240	Duty of director or other person in charge of medical facility to report communicable disease; report by infection preventionist; adoption of administrative procedures for reporting
DUTIES AND P	OWERS RELATING TO THE PRESENCE OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
NAC 441A.280	Duty of persons to cooperate with health authority during investigations and carrying out of measures for prevention, suppression and control of communicable diseases

	NG, REPORTING, PREVENTING, SUPPRESSING AND CONTROLLING COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (Bolded laws below are solely Tuberculosis laws)
NAC 441A.325	Compliance with provisions regarding particular communicable diseases
NAC 441A.350	Healthcare provider to report certain cases and suspected cases within 24 hours of discovery
NAC 441A.352	Registered pharmacist and intern pharmacist to report suspected cases
NAC 441A.355	Active tuberculosis: Duties and powers of health authority
NAC 441A.360	Cases & suspected cases: Prohibited acts; duties; discharge from medical supervision
NAC 441A.365	Contacts: Compliance with regulations; medical evaluation; prohibited acts
NAC 441A.370	Correctional facilities: Testing and surveillance of employees and inmates; investigation for contacts; course of preventive treatment for person with tuberculosis infection; documentation
NAC 441A.375	Medical facilities, facilities for the dependent, homes for individual residential care and outpatient facilities: Management of cases and suspected cases; surveillance and testing of employees; counseling and preventive treatment
NAC 441A.380	Admission of persons to certain medical facilities, facilities for the dependent or homes for individual residential care: Testing; respiratory isolation; medical treatment; counseling and preventive treatment; documentation
NAC 441A.385	Care of medically indigent patient in State Tuberculosis Control Program; payment of cost
NAC 441A.390	Treatment of case or suspected case by healthcare provider

APPENDIX B: STATE OF NEVADA CONFIDENTIAL MORBIDITY REPORT FORM

State of Nevada Confidential Morbidity Report Form Updated June 2015

1	SND	WASHOE COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT BHANGING QUALITY OF LIFE
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Provider							
Ь	Facility Name			Facility Phone	e	Report Date	
	Name			Gender	■ Female	Race	■ White
					☐ Male		■ Black
						4	Asian
	Address		County	Transgender	□ No		■ Native American ■ Pacific Islander
					☐ Yes, MF ☐ Yes, FM		Other
	City	State	Zip	Pregnant	□ No	Ethnicity	Hispanic
	City	State	Zip	Fregnant	Yes	Lumberry	■ Non-Hispanic
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Patient	Date of Birth / Age	Parent or Guardia	an Name	Pregnancy El	DC	Primary Land	auage Spoken
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	Home Phone	Occupation / Emp	ployer / School	Marital Status		Birth Country	and Arrival Date
					■ Married		
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	Disease or Condition Name			Admission Da	ate	Deceased	
	Disease or Condition Name Onset Date	Diagnosis Date		Admission Da Discharge Da		Deceased Date of Deat	Yes
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	Onset Date	Diagnosis Date					Yes
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Disease	Onset Date Symptoms	□No	If yes, attach	Discharge Da	ite	Date of Deat	Yes
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Comments Disease	Onset Date Symptoms Was laboratory testing ordered?	No Yes		Discharge Da	rovide the laborator	Date of Deat	□ Yes

Fax Completed Carson City: (775) 887-2138 Washoe County: (775) 328-3764 Clark County: (702) 759-1454 Rest of State: (775) 684-5999

State of Nevada

Confidential Morbidity Report Form Instructions Updated June 2015



Disease Reporting

The Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 441A requires reports of specified diseases, foodborne illness outbreaks and extraordinary occurrences of illness be made to the local Health Authority. The purpose of disease reporting is to recognize trends in diseases of public health importance and to intervene in outbreak or epidemic situations. Physicians, veterinarians, dentists, chiropractors, registered nurses, directors of medical facilities, medical laboratories, blood banks, school authorities, college administrators, directors of child care facilities, nursing homes and correctional institutions are required to report. Failure to report is a misdemeanor and may be subject to an administrative fine of \$1,000 for each violation. In December 2006, additional disease reporting requirements were approved by the Southern Nevada District Board of Health, which apply only to Clark County.

HIPAA and Public Health Reporting

HIPAA laws were developed so as not to interfere with the ability of local public health authorities to collect information. According to 45 CFR 160.204(b): "Nothing in this part shall be construed to invalidate or limit the authority, power, or procedures established under any law providing for the reporting of disease or injury, child abuse, birth, or death, public health surveillance, or public health investigation or intervention."

Instructions for Completing the Morbidity Report Form

Provider Information

Attending Physician/Phone/Fax
The physician primarily responsible for
the care of this patient

Person Reporting/Phone/Fax Provide if different than attending physician

Facility Name/Phone
List the location for facilities with
multiple locations.

Report Date

The date that this report is submitted

Patient Information

Sufficient information must be provided to allow the patient to be contacted. If insufficient information is provided, you will be contacted to provide that information. Attaching a patient face sheet to this report is an acceptable method of providing the patient demographic information.

Address/County/City/State/Zip

The home address of the patient, including the county Date of Birth / Age

The patient's date of birth or age if birth date is unknown

Parent or Guardian Name

For patients under the age of 18, the name of the person(s) responsible for the patient

Phone

The home phone of the patient Occupation / Employer / School

The occupation or employer of the patient, or the name of the school attended for students

Social Security Number

This information greatly assists in the investigation of cases, allowing easier access to laboratory and medical records

Medical Record Number

A patient identifier unique to the facility or office

Gender / Transgender

The gender of the patient, and transgender information if applicable Pregnant / Pregnancy EDC

The pregnancy status of female patients and their estimated date of confinement (projected delivery date)

Marital Status

The marital status of the patient Race / Ethnicity

Race and ethnicity categories have been chosen to match those used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Primary Language Spoken
Providing this information makes it
easier to contact non-English speaking
patients and arrange for translators

Birth Country and Arrival Date

If the patient was not born in the United
States, provide the patient's country of
origin and date of arrival in the US
Incarcerated

If the patient currently incarcerated, list the facility in the comments section

Disease Information

Disease or Condition Name
This form should be used for all legally
reportable diseases in the state of

Nevada Onset Date

The date of the first symptom experienced by the patient Diagnosis Date

The date that this disease was diagnosed. For reports of suspect illness, enter the date the illness was suspected.

Date Admitted/Discharged

For any patients admitted to a hospital, the date of admission and discharge (if the patient has been discharged)

Deceased / Date of Death

If the patient has died, the date of death. If known, list the cause of death under comments

Symptoms

All relevant symptoms Laboratory Testing

If laboratory testing has been ordered, please attach the laboratory results to this form. If relevant tests are pending, list them in the comments section, as well as the name of the laboratory performing the testing.

Treatment

Treatment information is necessary for the reporting of sexually transmitted diseases, and helpful in the investigation of other illnesses. If this field is left blank, you will be contacted to provide this information

Comments

Provide any additional information that may be useful in the investigation, or to explain answers given elsewhere on this form

Contact Information

Carson City Health & Human Services 900 E. Long St. Carson City, NV 89706 http://gethealthycarsoncity.org Phone: (775) 887-2190 opt.7 or (775-887-2008)

> After-Hours Phone: (775) 887-2008 Confidential Fax (775) 887-2138

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

4150 Technology Way
Carson City, Nevada 89706
http://health.nv.gov
Pone: (775) 684-5911 (24 Hours)
Confidential Fax: (775) 684-5999

Southern Nevada Health District

PO Box 3902 Las Vegas, NV 89127 http://www.cchd.org Phone: (702) 759-1000 (24 hours) Confidential Fax: (702) 759-1414

Epidemiology

Phone: (702) 759-1300 (24 hours) Confidential Fax: (702) 759-1414 STDs, HIV, and AIDS

Phone: (702) 759-0702 (702) 759-0771

Confidential Fax: (702) 759-1454 Tuberculosis

Phone: (702) 759-1015 Confidential Fax: (702) 759-1435

Washoe County District Health Department

1001 E. Ninth St., Building B P. O. Box 11130 Reno, Nevada 89520-0027 http://www.washoecounty.us/health/ Phone: (775) 328-2447 (24 hours) Confidential Fax: (775) 328-3764

How To Report

Completed reports can be faxed to the numbers listed on the front of this form. Diseases requiring immediate investigation and/or prophylaxis (e.g. invasive meningococcal disease, plague) should be also reported by telephone to the appropriate health jurisdiction.

Nevada Reportable Diseases

AIDS
Amebiasis
Animal bite from a rabiessusceptible species*
Anthrax
Arsenic:

Arsenic: Exposures and Elevated Levels! Botulism*† Brucellosis Campylobacteriosis CD4 lymphocyte

counts <500/µL Chancroid Chlamydia Cholera Coccidioidomycosis Cryptosporidiosis

Diphtheria†
Drowning‡
Drug-Resistant
Streptococcus
pneumoniae
Invasive
Disease‡

Disease]
Ehrilichosis/
anaplasmosis
E. coli 0157:H7
Encephalitis
Exposures of Large
Groups of

Exposures of Lai Groups of People†I Extraordinary occurrence of illness (e.g. Smallpox, Dengue, SARS)*†

Giardiasis Gonorrhea Granuloma inguinale Group A Streptococcal Invasive Disease]

Disease‡
Haemophilus
influenzae
(invasive)
Hansen's Disease
(leprosy)
Hantavirus
Hemolytic-uremic

syndrome (HUS) Hepatitis A, B, C, delta, unspecified HIV infection Influenza

Exposures and Elevated Levels‡ Legionellosis Leptospirosis Listeriosis Lyme Disease Lymphogranuloma venereum Malaria

Measles (rubeola)† Meningitis (specify type) Meningococcal Disease* Mercury:

Exposures and Elevated Levels Mumps Outbreaks of Communicable

Communicable
Disease*†
Outbreaks of
Foodborne
Disease*†
Pertussis

Pertussis Plague*† Poliomyelitis Psittacosis Q Fever Rabies (human or animal)*† Relapsing Fever

animal)*T Relapsing Fever Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Rotavirus Rubella (including congenital)†

Salmonellosis Severe Reaction to Immunization Shigellosis Syphilis (including congenital) Tetanus

Toxic Shock
Syndrome
Trichinosis
Tuberculosis†
Tularemia
Typhoid Fever
Vancomycinintermediate

Staphylococcus aureus (VISA) and Vancomycinresistant Staphylococcus aureus (VRSA) Infection [

Viral Hemorragic Fever West Nile Virus Yellow Fever Yersiniosis

Vibriosis, Non-Cholera

* Must be reported immediately † Must be reported when suspect

TReportable in Clark County Only All cases, suspect cases, and carriers ust be reported within 24 hours

For additional information regarding Nevada's TB program, contact:

State of Nevada Tuberculosis Controller
Office of Public Health Informatics and Epidemiology
Division of Public and Behavioral Health
3811 W. Charleston, Suite 205
Las Vegas, NV 89102
Phone: 702.486.0089
http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/TB/Tuberculosis

Funding Source:

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