

## Questions and Information about TB Testing

### 1. What is a Tuberculosis (TB) skin test?

A Tuberculosis (TB) skin test, also known as a Mantoux test or PPD, is done to see if you have been infected with Tuberculosis (TB) in the past. A positive Mantoux test may indicate that you have TB bacteria in your body that you may not be aware of. Tuberculosis (TB) [learn more](#) (MyHealth.Alberta.ca).

TB skin test must be done within **12 months of program start date**. Example: Student started program in the Winter 2021 term (January start) and may submit TB testing from January 2020 as the latest.

### 2. How many appointments will I need?

A TB skin test requires two appointments, spaced 48 to 72 hours apart. In the first appointment, a small amount of solution is injected under the top layer of skin on your arm. At the second appointment, a nurse checks to see if there has been a skin reaction to that solution.

### 3. What if I have a positive TB skin test?

A positive result, according to Alberta Health Services standards, is **10 mm** or greater. Students, who have tested for TB previously, will not be tested again for TB and will need to provide a Chest X-Ray within the **last 6 months** of the program start date.

A Chest X-Ray **without written documentation of previous positive TB skin test in millimeters** will not be accepted.

### 4. What if I have a history of BCG vaccine outside of Canada?

In case if you had a history of BCG (Bacillus Calmette Guerin) vaccine outside of Canada, there is a possibility that your TB skin test may show false positive result (10 mm or greater), so you may need to complete **TB Chest X-ray within six months** of program start date.