



Date: September 27, 2016 **Administrative Circular:** 2016:16

Attn: Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices
Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators,
Holders of British Columbia Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC);
Communicable Disease Control (CDC) Manual

Re: **Revisions to the BCCDC CD Manual – Chapter 4: Tuberculosis (TB):
*Tuberculosis Screening Decision Support Tool and Registered Nurses
Competencies for TB Screening***

Please note the following changes to the *Tuberculosis Screening Decision Support Tool (TB Screening DST)* – Discard and replace the entire DST.

REVISIONS OVERVIEW

Revisions align with the 2015 BCCDC TB Manual.

1) Format

Increased use of tables, flow charts and integrated “practitioner alert” text boxes for emphasis on implications for practice

2) Introduction: The following is included:

- Health inequities in relation to TB disease
- Major screening groups are highlighted
- TB Screening Form
- Definition of TB screening

3) Definitions: Definitions align with those in the 2015 BCCDC TB Manual

Removed:

- Consultation
- Referral
- TB Screening Form

Added:

- IGRA
- Immune compromised
- Immunologically vulnerable
- Indigenous
- Nonrespiratory TB disease
- Respiratory TB disease
- TST
- TST conversion
- Window Exposure Prophylaxis

4) **TB Assessment:** Content reorganized to align with the BCCDC TB Skin Testing (TST) course and Quick Reference Guide:

- **TB Health History:** TB History, Risk Factors and Symptoms
 - Risk Assessment: Persons who inject drugs (PWID) and attendants of residential school are included within the Risk Factor table.
- **Physical Assessment**
- **Screening tests:** Regarding TST and IGRA
 - Incorporation of TST cut-points table, providing more information on when a TST is positive.
 - New screening table for those presenting with prior IGRA test results.
- **Diagnostic tests:** Regarding sputum collection and diagnostic imaging

5) **HIV testing:** Offer or recommend HIV testing for people presenting for TB screening. This aligns with the Provincial Medical Health Officer's [HIV Testing Guidelines for the Province of British Columbia](#) and the BCCDC CD Manual: Chapter 5 – Sexually Transmitted Infections – Section 2: [Guidelines for Testing Follow up, and Prevention of HIV](#)

6) **TB Screening Guidelines:** This section is divided into different screening programs:

- Routine
- Contact
- HIV infected people: aligns with the BC CfE HIV/AIDS Primary Care Guidelines
- Immigration
- Symptomatic

- Travellers
- Indigenous people, living on-reserve: annual and enhanced screening guidelines for indigenous people living on-reserve have been added for use by Community Health Nurses employed by FNHA working

7) **Client Education and References:** Updated.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact:

Stephanie Gin, CPS Nurse Educator: 604-707-5628 or Stephanie.gin@bccdc.ca

Cheryl Prescott, CPS Senior Practice Leader: 604-707-5651 or Cheryl.Prescott@bccdc.ca

Manav Gill, CPS Public Health Manager: 604-707-2746 or Manav.Gill@bccdc.ca

Elisabeth Hansen, TBS Clinical Educator: Elisabeth.hansen@bccdc.ca

A continued nursing education (CNE) webinar to review the changes is slated for October 26, 2016. The webinar is hosted by PHSA Webcasting Services: Continued Nursing Education and is recorded for viewing at a later date.

Presentation details include:

Title: TB Screening DST: 2016 Revisions

Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2016

Time: 12:45 PM PDT

Duration: 1 hour

Link: <http://mediasite.phsa.ca/Mediasite/Play/48bbaa5bcc28450dbcb0a150df05698c1d>

Sincerely,



Dr. Victoria Cook MD, FRCPC
Medical Lead, Provincial TB Services
BC Centre for Disease Control

cc: Dr. Mark Tyndall
Executive Medical Director
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc: Ministry of Health

Dr. Perry Kendall
Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Bonnie Henry
Deputy Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Bob Fisk
Medical Consultant
Non-Communicable Disease

Craig Thompson
Director, CD Prevention – Immunization

Warren O'Brian
Executive Director
Communicable Disease and Addiction Prevention