



BC Centre for Disease Control  
An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

**Date:** October 1, 2020 **Administrative Circular: 2020:22**

**Attn:** Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices  
Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators  
Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

**Re:** Revisions to the Communicable Disease Control Manual –  
Chapter 4: Tuberculosis (TB) & TB Screening DST

**Please note that updates have been made to the following sections of the Communicable Disease Control (CDC) Manual - Chapter 4 Tuberculosis:**

- Section 2: Definitions – Discard and replace page 2
- Section 3: Tuberculosis – Discard and replace pages 7-9
- Section 4(a): TB Screening and Testing – Discard and replace pages 8 and 14
- Section 4(b): TB DST – Discard and replace pages 1, 3-5, 8, 10, 14, 24 and 26
- Section 5: Treatment of Active TB Disease – Discard and replace page 22
- Section 6: Treatment of Latent TB Infection – Discard and replace page 14
- Appendix A – Discard and replace pages 2-3 and 8-9
- Appendix B – Discard and replace page 7

#### **Overview of Changes – Chapter 4: Tuberculosis (TB) Manual:**

The manual has been updated to ensure recommendations reflect current practice and are provided in a clear, consistent and concise manner.

**The following high-level changes were made within each respective section:**

##### **Section 2: Definitions**

- Included new definition: homelessness/underhoused.

##### **Section 3: Tuberculosis**

- Updated TB case definition based on PHAC case definition revisions (effective Jan 1, 2020) which include a broader definition for laboratory confirmed cases of TB with the inclusion of nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT). Additionally, the new PHAC definition does not specify *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex sub-species leaving this detail to the discretion of the provinces and territories.

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#### Section 4a: TB Screening & Testing

- Updated links to definitions; included content on CXR indications and updated Section 4.6 TB Medical Surveillance Program process for initiating the 1<sup>st</sup> surveillance visit

#### Section 4b: TB Screening DST

- Updated professional body name to BC College of Nurses and Midwives (BCCNM)
- Updated hyperlinks to definitions; ensured non-stigmatizing language used when investigating a person for TB; improved clarity of screening for HCW's and travellers.
- Included live donor clients for those requiring TB screening
- Included clarification that the timing of live oral rotavirus vaccine and quadrivalent live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV-Q) does not impact the timing of a TST.

#### Section 5:

- Updated content in Section 5.12 to reflect that in BC, HCP's should report adverse reactions to medications via the BCPSLS and links to appropriate information on Vanessa's Law.

#### Section 6: Treatment of Latent TB Infection

- Updated content in Section 6.10 to reflect that in BC, HCP's should report adverse reactions to medications via the BCPSLS and links to appropriate information on Vanessa's Law.

#### Appendices:

##### A – Tuberculin Skin Testing Procedures

- Updated content to clarify only live, injectable viral vaccines impact timing of a TST.
- Updated content to reflect that in BC, HCP's should report adverse reactions to health products via the BCPSLS and links to appropriate information on Vanessa's Law.

##### B – Infection Prevention and Control

- Updated typo in **Table B-1: Recommendations on discontinuation of airborne precautions/home isolation**

If you have questions regarding these changes, please contact Maria MacDougall, Nurse Educator, Clinical Prevention Services or Shaila Jiwa, Senior Practice Leader, Clinical Prevention Services via their contact information below:

Maria MacDougall 604-707-5660 or [maria.macdougall@bccdc.ca](mailto:maria.macdougall@bccdc.ca)

Shaila Jiwa 604-707-5609 or [shaila.jiwa@bccdc.ca](mailto:shaila.jiwa@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,



Dr. Mark Gilbert, MD, FRCPC  
Medical Director, Clinical Prevention Services  
BC Centre for Disease Control

Pc:	Dr. Bonnie Henry Provincial Health Officer	BC Ministry of Health, Population & Public Health Division:
	Dr. Réka Gustafson, Vice President, Public Health and Wellness, PHSA & Deputy Provincial Health Officer	Brian Sagar Senior Director Communicable Diseases
	Dr. Martin Lavoie Deputy Provincial Health Officer	Bernard Achampong Executive Director Public Health, Planning and Prevention