

Update to Tuberculosis (TB) Screening in Congregate Settings

Dear Health Care Colleague,

In July 2026, TB screening in congregate settings guidance was updated by the BCCDC TB Services program in collaboration with all BC Health Authorities. The attached **TB Screening in Congregate Settings: What you need to know** document supports [licensed care programs](#) with their duty to screen for tuberculosis (TB) as outlined in the [BCCDC TB Screening Decision Support Tool \(DST\) Table 9a](#).

Testing for TB Infection - Not Required

Testing for TB infection (such as **TB skin test or IGRA**) is **not required** for admission or continued stay in these settings and **must not delay care**.

Screening for TB Disease – Required

The purpose of TB clearance is to prevent the spread of TB by ruling out respiratory TB disease.

Screening for TB disease is required before or at admission to some Licensed Care Programs by a health care worker (HCW) doing a TB signs and symptom evaluation and risk factor assessment. **By exception:** Facilities without a HCW on site may screen during the person's stay.

TB Disease Admissions Screening is Required for:	TB Disease Admissions Screening is NOT Required for:
- Withdrawal Management (up to 7 days) - Longer-Term Care Mental Health Programs - Long-Term Care Homes - Treatment & Recovery Services, including Substance Use and Trauma Programs	- Acquired Injury programs - Child & Youth Living Programs - Community Living Homes - Regulated Assisted Living - Short-Stay Services at Convalescent, Hospice, or Respite care (typically less than 90 days)

If you have any questions, please contact the health care provider or TB program listed below.

Sincerely,