TUBERCULIN SKIN TESTING OF HARRISON SCHOOL OF PHARMACY FACULTY AND STAFF

Responsible administrator: Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and Outreach
Last updated/reviewed: 5/1/2019

APPLIES TO: All faculty, administrative and professional employees, and staff who are employed by Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy (HSOP) (including full-time, part-time, TES, student workers, and work-study students) whose job increases their risk of TB exposure through their job responsibilities (examples include: receptionists, technicians, healthcare providers, and human subjects researchers). The level of exposure risk and hence the applicability of this policy to a specific employee will be determined by the HSOP Compliance Committee. Employees will be informed of the requirement to comply with this policy on hire and will be re-assessed annually during the employee’s annual evaluations.

POLICY:
• It is HSOP’s policy to prevent the spread of mycobacterium tuberculosis (TB) by enforcing a tuberculosis (TB) screening program for all HSOP employees who are at increased risk of infection.

• The CDC recommends that certain populations be tested for TB infection because they are at higher risk for being infected with TB bacteria, including: 1) Healthcare workers and providers 2) Laboratory employees where mycobacterium is handled or processed 3) People who live or work in high-risk settings such as hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, nursing homes, homeless shelters, correctional facilities, or other similar settings 4) People from a country where TB disease is common (most countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Russia) 5) People who have spent time with someone who has TB disease (See: https://www.cdc.gov/tb/topic/testing/whobetest.htm)

PROCEDURES:
• Every HSOP employee whose job increases their risk of TB exposure is required to have a baseline tuberculosis (TB) skin test administered and read, and the test verification must be filed in the employee’s human resources file. This test must be repeated annually. The level of risk of exposure, and hence the applicability of this policy will be determined by the HSOP Compliance Committee at the time of hire, and this will be re-assessed annually during the employee’s annual evaluation. Responsible party: Associate Deans, Department Heads, Chief Operations Officer / Human Resources Liaison, and the AU HSOP Compliance Committee

• TB screening results must be submitted by the employee annually. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in progressive disciplinary action up to and including employee dismissal. Responsible Party: Employee’s Supervisor

• Employees with positive PPD skin test results must report this to their immediate supervisor and associated practice site and follow all recommended clinical guidelines.
**Clinical Health Services:**

- All employees of AU HSOP’s Clinical Health Services (CHS) must comply with this policy. CHS employees can obtain their TB skin test at the State Wellness Center (SWC) or the AUPCC (TB skin tests will be purchased by CHS for use on CHS-Montgomery-based employees). Responsible party: Executive Director of Health Services

- Only TB skin tests that are administered/placed by a CHS healthcare provider will be read within CHS clinics.

**Department of Pharmacy Practice:**

- All healthcare providers within the Department of Pharmacy practice will be required to comply with this policy. Responsible party: Department Head of Pharmacy Practice

- TB skin tests will be provided at no cost to employees through the Auburn University Pharmaceutical Care Center (AUPCC). The TB skin test must be administered/placed and read by the AUPCC clinical staff. Faculty and staff are not allowed to read or interpret their own TB skin test results and report these to the AUPCC. The reading/evaluation must be conducted within the clinic by a CHS healthcare provider.

- Clinical faculty and staff that have affiliated practice sites that require annual TB skin testing may obtain a copy of their official results signed by a healthcare provider and authenticated by the healthcare facility where the testing was completed and submit these results to their supervisor and the HSOP compliance committee as documentation of compliance with this HSOP policy. PPD results that contain PHI will be stored within the AUPCC medical record to maintain employee confidentiality. Responsible party: Department Head of Pharmacy Practice

**Other Departments:**

- Enforcement of these policy and procedures must be monitored by the Department Head or the employee’s direct supervisor to ensure compliance. Results must be filed with the HSOP Compliance Committee.

**Additional Information**


- CDC. Targeted tuberculin testing and treatment of latent tuberculosis infection, MMWR 2000; 49 (No. RR-6).