



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER EL PASO

Operating Policy and Procedure

TTUHSC El Paso Health Surveillance Program

Students

I. Tuberculosis Surveillance

Tuberculosis surveillance for Covered Individuals is based on current U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Recommendations and Reports (December 30, 2005, 54 (#RR-17):1-147), Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in Health-Care Settings. Details of implementation are included in the Tuberculosis Control Program, Ambulatory Clinic Policy and Procedure EP 7.7.*

A. Pre-Matriculation Requirements

1. All students who attend school at TTUHSC El Paso, with the exception of students identified as having no direct patient care, are required to have documentation of a TB skin test (TST) having been performed within the last 12 months, regardless of a history of BCG vaccine.
2. Students who have never received a TB skin test, or tested negative prior to the last twelve month "window", must undergo (2-step) testing prior to matriculation.
3. Students with a documented history of a positive TB skin test shall provide a report from a physician indicating a chest x-ray taken within the previous 12 months was negative for TB or must have a chest x-ray performed and read before starting any patient related activities. An annual TB questionnaire must also be completed.

B. Annual Requirements

1. All students who attend school at TTUHSC El Paso, with the exception of students identified as having no direct patient care, will be required to have an updated TB skin test (TST) annually. Administration location of the TB skin test (TST) will be coordinated through the Occupational Health (OH) Department and students will be notified through their program where to go.
2. All students that newly convert with their annual TB skin test (TST) screening will be required to have one chest x-ray performed and will be required to complete the annual TB screening questionnaire with a follow up chest x-ray as indicated by the responses noted on the annual TB questionnaire.
 - a) New converters on a TB skin test (TST) must be referred to the City of El Paso Department of Public Health for follow up. Any follow up or treatment will be coordinated and documented by the local health departments.
3. Annual TB screening will be coordinated through the OH Department and does not require physician clearing.

C. Cost Responsibilities

1. The cost of all pre-matriculation requirements will be borne by the student.
2. Costs for annual TB skin tests will be covered through the OH Department.
3. If a student converts to a positive TB skin test (TST) with an annual evaluation, the rule out (r/o) Chest X-Ray will be performed and covered through the OH Department.
4. If students are required by affiliates to have TB testing, immunizations, or titer data beyond the recommended CDC guidelines, the student will bear the cost of meeting those requirements.

D. Record Maintenance

Pre-Matriculation and Annual records shall be received, validated, and maintained by the OH Department.

II. Immunizations

Immunization requirements are based on regulations, guidelines and recommendations available as of November, 2013 from the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the U.S. Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP). See attached CDC *Healthcare Worker Vaccination Recommendations* (2013).

A. Pre-Matriculation Requirements

All TTUHSC El Paso students (undergraduate and graduate), with the exception of students identified as having no direct patient care, must have received required immunizations with documentation submitted prior to matriculation. All immunizations must be in compliance with the "Healthcare Personnel Vaccination Recommendations".

B. Annual Requirements

1. Annual Flu vaccine will be offered to all TTUHSC El Paso students.
2. Completion of Hepatitis B series will be offered to all students who matriculated with at least one dose as scheduled.

C. Cost Responsibilities

1. The cost of all pre-matriculation immunizations/testing will be borne by the student.
2. Cost for completing the Hepatitis B series will be borne by the student.
3. Cost of Flu vaccine will be covered through the OH Department.
4. If students are required by affiliates to have TB testing, immunizations, or titer data beyond the recommended CDC guidelines, the student will bear the cost of those requirements.

D. Record Maintenance

Pre-Matriculation and Annual records shall be received, validated, and maintained by the OH Department.

III. Exposure Management

Institutional management of exposure to: (1) blood-borne pathogens, (2) body fluids and, (3) other miscellaneous exposures are based on regulations, guidelines and recommendations available as of June, 2012 from the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

A. Pre- Exposure Requirements

1. All students in programs with direct patient care or animal contact, must have either received their Hepatitis B series or be in the process of completing the Hepatitis B series prior to clinical rotations and is the responsibility of the student.
2. All students must have documentation of having received a onetime adult dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis).

B. Post- Exposure Requirements

1. Reporting

Students who have a known or suspected exposure to an infectious disease during the performance of an academic responsibility shall report that incident promptly to their immediate supervisor, fill out a "Non-Employee Injury/Incident Report", and seek immediate evaluation/care. Student is responsible to report and coordinate all follow-up with the OH Department.

2. Exposure Investigation and Management:

Exposure investigation and appropriate management (if indicated) including, medication administration, vaccination, blood work, and counseling shall be provided to students based on orders and recommendations from the OH Department or treating Physician.

C. Cost Responsibility

Costs for exposure investigation and prophylaxis post exposure treatment (PPE) will be billed through the student's insurance and the Screening and Immunization Fee will cover any remaining charges.

D. Record Maintenance

All records concerning student exposure will be maintained by the OH Department.