

## **2-Step TB (Mantoux) Testing @ Dr. Dec's Office**

You are requesting our office to do a 2-Step TB Skin Test. This may be requested for an educational/school program or for employment purposes. Also, Dr. Dec may want to do it if he suspects that you may have been exposed to Tuberculosis (TB).

### **What is a TB Skin Test?**

It is a small amount of a purified protein derivative (PPD) of the Tuberculosis Virus that is injected under your skin, usually on the surface of your forearm, midway between the wrist & elbow.

### **Why is a TB Skin Test Done?**

It is done to see if you have been exposed to Tuberculosis.

### **What is a Positive Test?**

A positive test results when a 10 mm elevation appears at the site of the injection within 48-72 hours of being administered. The test must be interpreted by a qualified nurse/physician.

### **Why is it done twice (2-Step)?**

Some institutions want to be SURE that you do not have TB, so if the first test is negative, another test is done 2 weeks later to confirm you are negative. In some patients, they may have been exposed quite recently and their bodies have not had time to produce the appropriate antibody reaction, so that is why you need a 2 week wait.

### **When should the test be done?**

It is easiest to do it on Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday, so it can be read in 48 hours when we are actually in the office. Injections **CANNOT** be done Thursday or Friday.

### **Payment:**

1. If a TB test is requested for Daycare, Preschool, School, Community College, University or other educational program then the TB test is covered by OHIP.
2. If a TB test is requested by an employer, for employment purposes, then it is **NOT** covered by OHIP and you or the employer are responsible for payment. The MOH is not allowing us to use the public supply for this purpose. Thus, the most practical way to get this done, is at the Public Health Department. You can contact them directly at (905) 688-3762.

We hope this clears up any confusion. Let us know if you have any questions.

Dr. Dec & Staff