

Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Information

All healthcare students are required to complete and submit the Queensland Health <u>Tuberculosis Risk Assessment</u> <u>Form for Students</u>. This is a self-assessment form (completed by yourself) to be submitted via Blackboard (<u>Learn.UQ login</u>) for verification.

Why do I need this risk assessment?

Students with undiagnosed TB may pose a significant risk, particularly to vulnerable patients such as young children and immune-suppressed persons. Some people are at increased risk of developing tuberculosis because they have spent significant time in overseas <u>countries with a high incidence of TB</u>, have been in direct contact with a person with active TB, or have been exposed to TB infection as a result of their work. ¹ Further information is available on the Queensland Health TB Fact Sheet.

What if I need further testing?

It is expected that you will follow the guidance on the TB Risk Assessment Form for Students and seek appropriate testing and/or treatment if you identify as having signs of active TB or a TB exposure risk history. The form should be taken with you to any appointments.

If you identify as having an increased risk of TB:

Contact a <u>Queensland tuberculosis service</u> which provides free medical assessment and screening. The TB skin test (TST) requires two x 30 minute appointments on two separate days that occur 48-72 hours apart. There may be long waiting times for screening so it is best to organise an appointment as early as possible. The closest TB service is the Metro South Clinical Tuberculosis Service, Princess Alexandra Hospital Campus, via Cornwall Street, Woolloongabba, Brisbane;



 Your medical practitioner can order an Interferon Gamma Release Immunoassay (IGRA)/QuantiFERON®-TB Gold blood test at a Private Pathologist which will cost approximately \$60 (not refundable via Medicare or Overseas Student Health Cover). The advantages of the IGRA test are that it can be done immediately, the result will be available within a short time and it only requires one visit to a pathology collection centre for the blood sample to be taken.

Providing your results

If you do not have active TB you will be able to attend placements, even if you are waiting for a TB screening test. You will need to provide a copy of any follow-up testing or treatment results using the submission method below.

Submission method: online only via Blackboard – Learn.UQ login link at: https://elearning.uq.edu.au/

For assistance submitting your documents, please contact Student Administration in the Faculty of Medicine.

Phone: +61 7 3346 4922 or Email med.enquiries@uq.edu.au

¹ Tuberculosis Risk Assessment FAQ for Workers in Queensland Health Facilities. Queensland Health.