



State of New Jersey
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JUDITH M. PERSICILLI, RN, BSN, MA
Acting Commissioner

December 13, 2019

TO: All Facilities and Services Licensed by the Department of Health

FROM: Marcela Ospina Maziarz, MPA 
Deputy Commissioner
Health Systems

SUBJECT: Replacement for the March 2013 Memo regarding "Health Care Worker Tuberculin Skin Testing"

The Department of Health (Department) is sending this memo, which supersedes the March 2013 memo regarding "Health Care Worker Tuberculin Skin Testing", to establish a new tuberculin screening process for employees of facilities and services licensed by the Department of Health's (Department) Division of Certificate of Need and Licensing (Division). This memo is the Department's current policy and at a future date the Division will be amending the various licensing standards in the *New Jersey Administrative Code* to reflect this new policy.

The Department is adopting the "Tuberculosis Screening, Testing, and Treatment of U.S. Health Care Personnel: Recommendations from the National Tuberculosis Controllers Association and CDC, 2019" published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*; May 17, 2019; Vol. 68; No. 19, as the guidelines the Division's licensed facilities and services are to follow in regard to Tuberculosis screening, testing and treatment for an employee. This standard amends and supplements the "Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of Mycobacterium Tuberculosis in Health Care Settings" (2005 Guidelines), published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*; December 30, 2005; Vol. 54; RR-17.

Any future supplements or amendments to these standards promulgated by the CDC are to be automatically followed by a licensed facility or service. Facilities and services are to amend their existing policies and procedures reflecting these new standards prior to implementation.

In addition to the guidance provided above, the Department will be allowing any of the CDC approved tuberculosis tests to serve as a replacement for any specifically named tuberculosis test that appears in the Department's facility licensing regulations.

If questions arise, please call Michael Kennedy or Eugene Brenycz of my staff at (609) 292-5960.