

Policy # 5.017 Tuberculosis Screening for C.E.S. Personnel

It is the intent of Cooperative Educational Services to maintain a healthy work environment for its employees. Due to the current low rates of transmission of tuberculosis in all parts of Connecticut, routine screening for tuberculosis for all staff is not warranted. However, any personnel hired to work at a C.E.S. National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accredited preschool and kindergarten program shall be tested for tuberculosis at the time of hire and every two years following the initial screening. However, if any C.E.S. employee is exposed to a potentially infectious tuberculosis case or should develop symptoms of tuberculosis, repeat skin testing is required.

Adopted by C.E.S. Representative Council on: September 7, 2006

REVISED: November 6, 2014

Reference: **June 2011** Department of Public Health Guidelines for
Tuberculosis Control Screening

Procedures

All new employees **hired to work at a C.E.S. National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accredited preschool and kindergarten program** must have documentation of results of a tuberculin test within thirty (30) days from the date of hire. Documentation may be provided in any one of the following manners:

- Any employee hired to work at the Six to Six preschool and kindergarten program or the School Readiness Program must be screened for tuberculosis prior to employment and every two years after initial hire.
- New employees who have previously tested positive will submit documentation from a licensed health care provider of the previously positive test and the follow-up treatment being provided.
- New employees **hired to work at a C.E.S. National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accredited preschool and kindergarten program** may be tested by the C.E.S. school nurses under the order of the C.E.S. school medical advisor. Results of testing will be documented by the C.E.S. school nurse and filed in the employee's personnel file.
- New employees **hired to work at a C.E.S. National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accredited preschool and kindergarten program** may submit clear documentation of results of a tuberculin skin test from their own licensed health provider. Documentation of prior testing for tuberculosis must be less than one (1) year old. The test must have been administered within the last year and conform to the requirements listed below.

Type of Test and Recording Results

The intradermal injection test (Mantoux test) is to be used.

Negative Test Results

In general, an induration of 0-9 mm obtained by screening by the Mantoux test should be considered negative. If testing is being done as part of a contact investigation following discovery of a potentially infectious case, induration of 0-4 mm should be considered negative. No further evaluation is indicated unless the employee has a chronic unexplained cough or is a result of contact to a known infectious case of tuberculosis. In such instances, the employee will be referred further medical evaluation.

Positive Test Results

In general, induration of greater than or equal to 10 mm by the Mantoux should be considered positive. If testing is conducted as part of a contact investigation, induration greater than or equal to 5 mm should be considered positive. Employees with positive test results will be referred for further medical assessment and treatment. A symptom screen and chest x-ray should be performed to rule out active TB disease on all employees with a positive skin test. Treatment for employees with positive test results

will be determined by the treating physician. Employees with positive test results will be allowed to work based upon the recommendation of the treating physician.

For those employees who have increased risk of tuberculosis according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), documentation is required annually by a licensed health professional showing that the employee is free from active TB disease.