

New Tuberculosis Technical Instructions for Civil Surgeons

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Major Changes in New Technical Instructions (TIs)

- ▶ Effective 1 October, 2018.
- ▶ <https://www.cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth/exams/ti/civil/tuberculosis-civil-technical-instructions.html>
- ▶ Must use IGRA in all applicants > 2 years of age.
- ▶ May only use TST in applicants < 2 years of age (when indicated).
- ▶ Must report cases of LTBI to public health department.
- ▶ Class B0: new category for applicants who complete TB disease treatment during status adjustment process.



Significant Clarifications in New TIs

- ▶ Civil Surgeons must not refer applicants to public health department for IGRA, TST, or CXR. These ALL must be performed independently PRIOR TO referral to public health department.
- ▶ Applicants with known HIV infection must receive chest x-ray (CXR) and be referred to public health department for sputum testing.



IGRA, TST, and Radiology by Applicant Age



Applicants > 2 Years of Age

- ▶ Must use IGRA (QuantiferON or TSPOT).
- ▶ If IGRA positive:
 - ▶ < 10 years of age: anteroposterior OR posteroanterior, AND lateral CXR.
 - ▶ > 10 years of age: posteroanterior CXR.
- ▶ If CXR abnormal consistent with TB OR known HIV positive: refer to public health department.



Applicants < 2 Years of Age

- ▶ Physical examination and history.
- ▶ If TB signs/symptoms identified OR known HIV positive:
 - ▶ Perform TST or IGRA. TST positive if ≥ 10 mm; ≥ 5 mm if known contact to recent case.
 - ▶ Perform CXR (anteroposterior OR posteroanterior, AND lateral).
 - ▶ Report to public health department.



Reporting LTBI to Public Health



Overview of LTBI Reporting By Civil Surgeons

- ▶ Civil Surgeons are required to report cases of LTBI diagnosed during the Civil Surgeon Examination to public health, and must inform applicants of this reporting.
- ▶ Civil Surgeons should contact their State TB Program for rules and process to report LTBI:
 - ▶ Indiana: LTBI is a reportable condition in Indiana. All providers should report LTBI cases that meet Council of State & Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) definition to the appropriate local health department. Local health departments provide LTBI treatment to all patients, free of charge.
 - ▶ Ohio: LTBI is not a reportable condition in Ohio, but Civil Surgeons should report LTBI cases to appropriate local TB Control Unit. Local TB Control Units will provide LTBI treatment as their resources permit.
 - ▶ Michigan: LTBI is not a reportable condition in Michigan. State of Michigan TB Program has provided guidance to all Civil Surgeons practicing in Michigan* to report LTBI through the Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS). Local health departments may provide treatment as their resources permit.

* as identified by Centers for Disease Control



LTBI Reporting By Civil Surgeons in Michigan

- ▶ Guidance for reporting in MDSS was distributed in late September, 2018.
 - ▶ Electronic
 - ▶ Secure
 - ▶ MDSS automatically refers case to appropriate local health department based on patient address
- ▶ From 1 October 2018 – 31 May 2019:
 - ▶ 345 cases reported statewide (avg 43/mo)
 - ▶ 26 local health departments
 - ▶ Majority from counties in Detroit metro area
- ▶ MDHSS TB Program lacks staffing capacity to track completeness of Civil Surgeon LTBI case reports, referral for care, or treatment outcomes.

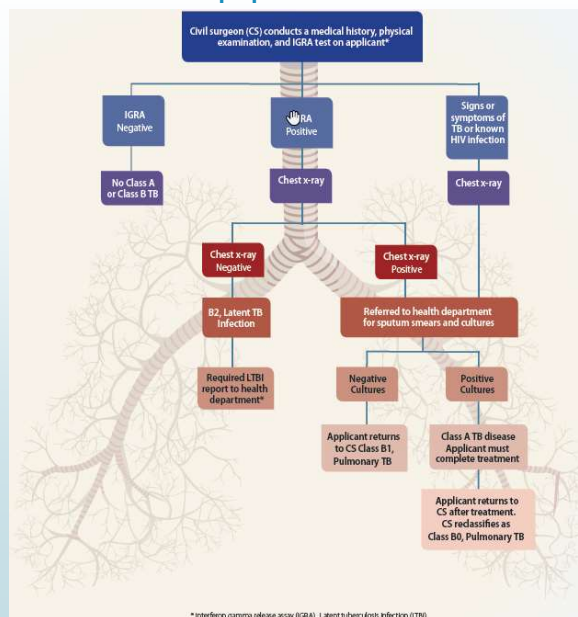



New Classification of B0

Class B0: Complete TB Disease Treatment During Status Adjustment

- ▶ All applicants who have or are diagnosed with TB Disease must receive an A Classification and complete treatment through the appropriate public health department.
- ▶ Class B0 is a new classification for applicants who complete TB Disease treatment during status adjustment.
 - ▶ Refer to TIs for details on how to document and update this in the I-693.
 - ▶ The appropriate public health department must sign that applicant has complied with public health recommendations and completed treatment.
- ▶ Refer to TIs for Classifications of B1 (Pulmonary or Extrapulmonary), B2 (LTBI), or B Other.

Algorithm for Applicants > 2 Years of Age





Clarification of TB Testing & Radiology Prior to Referral to Public Health



Initial IGRA, TST & CXR Performed Independent from Public Health

- Addresses ambiguities in prior TIs that resulted in delay of service, additional costs to applicants and public health, and confusion of roles between Civil Surgeon and public health.
- As components of the Tuberculosis Screening process, IGRA/TST and CXR must be performed and results documented before the applicant is referred to public health department.
 - Applicants with clinical signs/symptoms of TB Disease (regardless of site) must be referred immediately to appropriate public health department, regardless of IGRA or CXR findings.
 - Applicants with CXR suggestive of TB disease must be referred to public health department.



Applicants with Known HIV Infection



Referral of Applicants With Known HIV Infection to Public Health Department

- ▶ Applicants with known HIV infection must be referred to public health department, regardless of IGRA, CXR or signs/symptoms of TB disease, AND must provide 3 morning sputum specimens for microscopy and culture.
- ▶ This requirement is in parity with TIs for Panel Physicians, but is somewhat divergent from guidelines and generally-accepted practice in the U.S.
- ▶ Some public health departments may not agree to collect sputa from such applicants, especially if CXR is normal and applicant is asymptomatic:
 - ▶ Internal policies regarding collection of sputum for smear and culture
 - ▶ Lack of negative pressure room in which to perform sputum collection safely for staff
- ▶ CDC's Division of TB Elimination has indicated that state and local public health programs should make their own decisions whether to accept applicants referred under this requirement, and/or for which applicants to attempt collection of sputa.



Resources

- ▶ Indiana State TB Program: Kelly White @ 317-233-7548
- ▶ Michigan State TB Program: Peter Davidson @ 517-284-4922
- ▶ Ohio State TB Program: Sarah Mitchell @ 614-387-0652
- ▶ CDC Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, Civil Surgeon TB TIs:
<https://www.cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth/exams/ti/civil/tuberculosis-civil-technical-instructions.html>
- ▶ CDC Division of Tuberculosis Elimination home page:
<https://www.cdc.gov/tb/default.htm>



Discussion