

# TB TIPS

TB anywhere is TB everywhere



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
Ontario County, NY



## Interpreting Tuberculin Skin Tests & Deciding When to Treat

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Most people at risk for developing active TB disease fall into one of two broad categories:

1. Those who are likely to have been exposed to active TB disease.
2. Those with conditions/factors that increase their risk of progression from latent TB infection to active TB disease.

Ontario County Public Health follows the CDC algorithm below to interpret TST reactions

### CANDIDATES FOR TREATMENT OF LATENT TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION (LTBI)

PERSON TESTED	TST $\geq$ 5 mm	TST $\geq$ 10 mm	TST $\geq$ 15 mm
HIV Positive	TREAT	TREAT	TREAT
Immunosuppressed $\blacklozenge$	TREAT	TREAT	TREAT
Recent contact with active TB case	TREAT	TREAT	TREAT
Fibrotic changes on chest x-ray consistent with prior TB	TREAT	TREAT	TREAT
Recent arrival (< 5 years) from endemic country	Do Not Treat	TREAT	TREAT
IV drug user	Do Not Treat	TREAT	TREAT
Resident or employee of institutional settings $\S$	Do Not Treat	TREAT	TREAT
Mycobacteria lab personnel	Do Not Treat	TREAT	TREAT
High-risk clinical conditions $\ddagger$	Do Not Treat	TREAT	TREAT
Children < 5 years old	Do Not Treat	TREAT	TREAT
Children < 18 years old exposed to high-risk adult(s) $\infty$	Do Not Treat	TREAT	TREAT
No risk factors (TST discouraged)	Do Not Treat	Do Not Treat	Consider Treating

$\blacklozenge$  Persons with organ transplants & other immunosuppressed persons including those on TNF- $\alpha$  antagonists or equivalent of prednisone  $\geq$  15 mg/day for  $\geq$  1 month.

$\S$  Correctional facilities, long-term care facilities, hospitals and other health care facilities, residential facilities including those for individuals with HIV/AIDS and homeless shelters. **NOTE:** TST Conversion (increase of  $\geq$  10mm in TST size within 2 years) is indicative of recent infection with *M.tb*.

$\ddagger$  Silicosis, diabetes, chronic renal failure/hemodialysis, head/neck cancer, low body weight, gastrectomy, jejunioileal bypass.

$\infty$  High Risk Adults: HIV infected, IV drug users, radiographic evidence of prior healed TB and those conditions listed in  $\ddagger$   $\blacklozenge$

Ontario County Public Health provides treatment for active TB disease and case management to individuals with latent TB infection. For more information call:

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