



Health

Public Health and Primary Health Care
Communicable Disease Control
4th Floor, 300 Carlton St, Winnipeg, MB R3B 3M9
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www.manitoba.ca

November 1, 2012

Dear Health Care Provider –

Re: **Current shortage of Tubersol[®] for administering the Tuberculin Skin Test (TST)**

Due to the current manufacturing issues and resultant shortage of **Tubersol[®]**, Manitoba Health is recommending the following:

Continue with the TST for the following individuals who are at increased risk of Tuberculosis:

- Contacts of individuals with active TB
- Individuals who are or who soon may be significantly immune-compromised, including those with HIV, on tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-alpha inhibitors, long-term high-dose corticosteroid therapy.

Temporarily suspend the use of TST for the following low-risk groups:

- Routine pre-employment screening in health care workers who work in low risk TB settings
- Travelers
- Personal care home residents
- Students.

Notify Manitoba Health of your current Tubersol[®] stock that was either privately purchased or ordered through the Provincial Vaccine Warehouse to allow for provincial awareness of the current supply in Manitoba and to assist in the diversion of high risk individuals for testing, if required. Contact Inga Hossack at inga.hossack@gov.mb.ca or tel. 204-788-6722.

The shortage is expected to continue until April 2013 and Manitoba Health is currently exploring alternate source options for providers and will provide updates on the current supply or alternate source options as soon as available.

Your assistance with this matter is appreciated. Please contact Communicable Disease Control at the contact information above if you have further questions and/or concerns.

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ALL RELEVANT COLLEAUGES.

Sincerely –

“Original signed by”

Kathleen Messner, RN, BN
Director, Communicable Disease Control
Manitoba Health