

	Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center Policy Manual	Policy Number	604
		Original Date	04/18/1994
	Department: Nursing	Revised Date	03/01/2016
	Tuberculin Detection, Prevention and Control Policy		

POLICY:

Employees and residents will be free from active Tuberculin infection.

PROCEDURE:

A. Employees:

1. Newly hired employees will have two PPD Tuberculin skin tests, one to three weeks apart, unless previous skin tests have been positive. If verification of recent PPD test(s) done within the last six months is provided, newly hired employees will have one PPD Tuberculin skin test. Employees must complete a Consent for PPD Form prior to the test being administered. Employees may begin work only if the first PPD test is negative. After the initial new employee screening, a yearly TB Screening Questionnaire will be completed by each employee.
2. If the TB questionnaire gives evidence of probable TB exposure, it will be required that their PPD test be redone and may be referred for a chest x-ray. Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center will pay for the cost of one posterior/anterior view and the appropriate fee to have it read, if the cost is not reimbursed by health insurance. Employees must furnish a copy of their health insurance explanation of benefits verifying nonpayment.
3. A new employee who has had a positive PPD test in the past, (10mm induration or greater, must furnish proof that he or she is free from active tuberculosis (either by chest x-ray or a physician or clinic statement). This must be provided prior to starting work.
4. Should an employee have a positive PPD test, (10mm induration or greater) during the initial testing, the employee shall furnish a physician's statement that he or she is free from active tuberculosis within (10) days after the date the test was read. The employee may not work until said statement is received. The attached Certification: Free of Active Tuberculosis Form will be utilized. Failure on the employee's part to provide proof that he or she is free from active Tuberculosis will be brought to the attention of the Director of Nursing of the Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center and may result in leave without pay or termination.

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5. Employees refusing the PPD test(s) and the refusal is not due to a positive reaction, will be required to provide medical proof in the form of a physician release that they are free from tuberculosis infection prior to their start date. The facility will not pay for the cost of the x-ray in this situation.

B. Residents

1. All new admissions to the Center are required to provide proof of absence of active Tuberculosis. PPD test will be administered within seven days of admission. A new admission who has had a positive PPD test in the past (10mm induration or greater) must furnish proof that he or she is free from active tuberculosis (either by chest x-ray or physician or clinic statement).
2. If the first PPD is negative, it will be repeated within one to three weeks.
3. After the initial screening, a yearly TB Screening Questionnaire will be completed for each resident.
4. Any resident who's TB Screening Questionnaire suggests probable TB exposure (i.e: having been hospitalized on a unit with patients with active TB, but not in negative airflow rooms) will have their PPD repeated. Any resident who then converts to a positive PPD will also be referred for a chest x-ray and have their physician notified for possible treatment.
5. Residents who have had previously documented TB by positive sputum cultures or tissue specimen will not be given a PPD.