The following information sheet is meant to clarify the subject of tuberculosis (TB) screening and tuberculin skin testing requirements for children entering child care.

**LICENSING MANDATES**

**Child Care Centers**

According to the General Licensing Requirements/Evaluator Manual, “a child who is enrolling in a Child Care Center is no longer automatically required to have a Mantoux skin test for tuberculosis.” Instead, a child is required to have an evaluation done for tuberculosis (TB) risk factors as part of his or her medical assessment. A child is only required to have TB testing if (after reviewing the child’s risk factors) a health care provider deems it is necessary.

If indicated, testing may be done with either a tuberculin skin test (TST aka PPD-Mantoux) or interferon gamma release assay (IGRA) which is a blood test. If the TST or IGRA blood test is positive or a child has symptoms of active TB, a chest x-ray should be performed. TST is the preferred test for children under 5 years of age but IGRA can be done for children as young as 4 years of age.

**Procedure for Centers**

Use the revised Physician’s Report-Child Care Centers Form (LIC 701) for all new children entering child care. This Form has a box entitled “Screening of Tuberculosis Risk Factors” that the child’s physician/health care provider must complete. The risk factors for TB in children are on the back of the Form. Make sure a Physician’s Report-Child Care Centers Form (LIC 701) is on file for each child. To access this Form go to: [http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entre/forms/English/LIC701.pdf](http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entre/forms/English/LIC701.pdf)

**Family Child Care Providers**

Licensing does not require Family Child Care Providers to have children seen for a pre-admission health evaluation as a requirement for enrollment nor are they required to have TB testing or risk factor screening.

**BCG Vaccine**

A child has history of BCG vaccination, should they still be seen by a Health Care Provider?

**Yes.** Center providers would still need the child’s physician/health care provider to fill out the Physician’s Report-Child Care Centers Form (LIC 701).

**Community Care Licensing does not address the subject of positive TB test results, BCG vaccines or treatment plans.**

For TB related questions, you may call the Tuberculosis Control Program at (408) 885-4214.

**SCHOOL ENTRY**

*Do children in child care need a TB test to enter school?*

**Maybe.** As of June 1, 2014 all children entering kindergarten or transferring into Santa Clara County schools for the first time are no longer required to have testing for TB but instead must undergo a TB risk assessment by a health care provider; TB testing is only required if a risk factor is identified. TB testing may be done with either a TST (aka PPD-Mantoux) or IGRA.

The TB Risk Assessment Form, including test results (if indicated) must be completed by a health care provider and submitted prior to school entry. An assessment done up to twelve months prior to registration for school is considered valid. (Transitional Kindergarten is exempt from this requirement).

TB Risk Assessment Forms can be obtained at the school site or at [www.sccphd.org/tb](http://www.sccphd.org/tb).

If a TST or IGRA is needed, the documentation must indicate the date testing was performed and must be signed by a health care provider. For TSTs, the result of the reading must include the date the TST was read and recorded in millimeters of induration. Health care providers are encouraged to record this information on the yellow California immunization card.

**References:**


For more information, please contact the Child Care Health Promotion Program at (408) 937-2250 or visit [www.sccphd.org](http://www.sccphd.org). Click on “Partners” then “Child Care Health Consultant”