

## Tuberculosis (TB)

Tuberculosis (TB) is an airborne disease caused by the bacterium called Mycobacterium tuberculosis (M. tuberculosis).

According to CDC, TB disease is one of the leading causes of death due to infectious disease in the world. TB disease is preventable and curable.

Not everyone infected with TB bacteria becomes sick. As a result, two TB-related conditions exist: [latent TB infection](#) (or inactive TB) and [TB disease](#). People with latent TB infection can be treated to prevent the development of TB disease.

## NMHS TB Skin testing requirements:

A two-step method will be initiated at the Pre-Employment Health Evaluation for TB Skin Testing.

Repeat testing may be required for employee exposures.

Annual TB skin testing is required only for staff and providers who work or float to Long Term Care, Home Health, Hospice, and Inpatient Hospice Care.

New employees with documented prior positive testing will undergo a chest x-ray instead of testing. Previous positive staff should complete an annual symptom TB questionnaire.

## Notify Employee Health immediately if you experience any Signs and Symptoms of TB:

Cough (persistent >3 weeks)

Night sweats (not related to menopause)

Weakness

Hemoptysis (spitting up blood)

Unexplained Weight loss

Loss of appetite

Chest pains

Fever

Difficulty breathing