

Area: Health Services

Subject: HS15 - Tuberculosis Screening (Staff, Volunteers, Enrolled Children)

Reference: 1304.20(a)(2), 101216(g)(1)(b)(2), 36, 101220

Policy: Pursuant to Head Start Performance Standards and State of California Title 22 licensing regulations, Head Start Staff, children and regular volunteers are required to be screened for tuberculosis (TB).

Procedure:

1. **Staff** is to complete an initial health examination that includes screening for tuberculosis and a periodic re-examination as recommended by their health care provider, employer or local Public Health Agency. State licensing requires TB skin testing completed not more than one year prior to or seven days after initial presence in the center.
2. The good physical health of each **volunteer** who works in the center shall be verified by results of a test for TB (ppd skin test)** performed not more than one year prior to or seven days after initial presence in the center. Volunteer means an unpaid person who is trained to assist in implementing ongoing program activities on a regular basis under the supervision of a staff person in areas such as health, education, transportation, nutrition and management. A volunteer would include Head Start parents and/or family members.
3. Each Head Start **child** will be screened for risk factors by the Head Start Nurse prior to or within 30 calendar days following enrollment to a childcare center/FCCH. All children who have at least one of the following risk factors will be tested for TB (ppd skin test and/or chest x-ray) by their health care provider or local Public Health clinic:
 - Have a family member or contacts with a history of confirmed or suspected TB
 - Are in foreign-born families and from high-prevalence countries (Asia, Africa, Mexico, Central and South America)
 - Live in out-of-home placements
 - Have, or are suspected to have, HIV infection
 - Live with an adult with HIV seropositivity
 - Live with an adult who has been incarcerated in the last five years
 - Live among, or are frequently exposed to, individuals who are homeless, migrant farm workers, users of street drugs, or residents in nursing homes
 - Have abnormalities on chest X-rays suggestive of TB
 - Have clinical evidence of TB
 - Have had the BCG vaccination
4. It is the policy of Head Start grantee and delegate agencies to utilize the Children's Health and Disabilities Program (CHDP) periodicity schedule in assessing the status of well child check. The CHDP periodicity schedule requires a TB Exposure Risk Assessment be completed at 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18 months, at 2 and 3 years old, and between the ages of 4-5 years old.
5. All children enrolled in Head Start will be screened for TB annually.
6. All TB screening/testing results will be documented and kept on file at each Head Start site.

7. If a skin test is positive, a referral is made to Health Services Agency/or PCP follow-up. The Head Start center/program is to have on file a clearance from the examining physician showing that the adult/child is free from active disease or under treatment and is clear to work/attend school/volunteer.
8. For individuals who travel in high risk areas as indicated in #3, after initial clearance, they are to be rescreened for TB 10 weeks after returning to the United States.
9. The Health Advisory Board will evaluate the TB policy annually.

***Due to the current shortage of ppd solution, Title 22, Community Care Licensing has approved that a TB risk assessment can be conducted for volunteers. Potential volunteers showing no risk factors are cleared to volunteer. For potential volunteers with identified TB risk factors, a negative ppd test and or chest x-ray will still be required prior to them volunteering in the Center/FCCH (effective 8/6/13).*

Supervised by: Director of Health Services, Health and Disabilities Advisory Committee

Performed by: Head Start Nurses, Family Health Services Assistants

Forms needed: Parent Volunteer Classroom List, Physical Reports, CSIR, Electronic Tracking Reports, Physicals

Frequency: Annually

Health and Disability Advisory Committee review: 1/27/14