

SA Tuberculosis Services

Student Healthcare Worker Screening

Dear Doctor,

This student has undertaken an online TB Screening Questionnaire which indicates the need for further TB screening prior to the commencement of their clinical placement. They have been asked to contact a general practitioner to help arrange a QuantiFERON TB Gold Plus (QFT Plus) blood test, also referred to as IGRA (Interferon gamma release assay).

For all IGRA results returned negative, the GP ordering the test can clear the student for clinical placements.

If the IGRA result is positive, please then arrange a chest x-ray and complete a TB symptom check. If there are no signs of active TB, the GP can clear the student, but must also refer them to SATB Services for follow-up.

Please contact us if you have any urgent concerns or if the student is exhibiting any symptoms.

SYMPTOM CHECK: 3-4 weeks cough, fever, or unexplained weight loss.

Screening Instructions

Defer the IGRA if the student has had

- > a fever or infection in the past month
- > received any live vaccinations in the past month (e.g. measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), yellow fever, chicken pox (varicella), shingles)

Ordering the IGRA

- > Add SA TB Services (RAH) as a recipient of the result on the pathology request form. We maintain a state-wide database for TB screening results. Where possible, please use SA Pathology for ease in receiving results.
- > Test results can take 5-10 business days to receive from SA Pathology.

Assessment

1. If the IGRA is **negative**, the student can be cleared by you for clinical placement
2. If the IGRA is **indeterminate** the test should be repeated
 - a. If the repeat test remains indeterminate, **discuss with SATBS medical staff** (7117 2967)
3. **Arrange for a chest x-ray AND administer symptom check** (attached) if:
 - a. IGRA **positive** (TB Antigen >0.35 IU/ml)
 - b. Any **immune suppressed** individual **regardless** of the IGRA result

*Our preference is Bensons, Jones & Partners or Radiology SA for ease in viewing the films

Clearing the student for placement

- > For all students with **negative** IGRA results who are not immunocompromised, please provide them with evidence required for clinical placements:
 - Sign-off in the appropriate place on a student's immunisation form OR
 - Use the attached clearance certificate
- > For all students with **positive** IGRA results, or if the student is immunocompromised
 - IF the chest x-ray is normal, clearance for clinical placements can be given, provided there is no evidence of active TB disease. Please use the attached clearance certificate.
 - Refer all positive IGRAs to SATBS using the provided request for referral, attached.

For more information

Royal Adelaide Hospital, SA TB Services, Clinic 3E
Telephone: (08) 7117 2967 Fax: (08) 7117 2998
Monday-Friday, 8:45am-4:30pm



TB Clearance for Clinical Placements Student Healthcare Worker

This document, signed by a GP or authorised healthcare worker, may be accepted as TB clearance for students attending clinical placements.

Student Details

First Name		Last name	
DOB	/	/	
Address			
Phone			

Symptom Check

3-4 week cough Fever Unexplained weight loss

If any of the above, please refer immediately to SATB Services

NONE of the above

This certifies that the student named above has completed the requirements for tuberculosis screening prior to undertaking clinical placements, as recommended by SA Tuberculosis Services.

Follow up with SATB Services: (circle one)

Is not required

Is required

Fax Referral to:
SATB Services 7117 2998

Clearance Date

/ /

GP Details

Name	
Practice	
Address	
Phone	
Signature	

