



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Provincial Tuberculosis Services

bccdc.ca/our-services/programs/tb-services

TB Screening: Access to Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services Programs

A TB skin test (TST) is not a requirement for TB screening before admission into a Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services program. Testing for TB infection* should never delay program entry since people with TB infection cannot transmit TB to others.

TB screening before entering a Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service Program in BC is recommended to identify persons with TB disease* and prevent TB transmission during their stay. This includes:

- **TB risk assessment:** Review of TB exposure, testing and treatment history to understand TB risk and an evaluation of TB signs and symptoms to rule out TB disease.
- **TB clearance:** A person is provided TB clearance to enter their program if no TB signs and symptoms are present.

If you have any questions please contact the health care provider listed below.

Regards,

***TB infection** is the dormant or “sleeping” state of TB where a person has a small amount of TB germs in their body that is contained by their immune system. They do not have symptoms and cannot spread TB to other people. **TB disease** occurs when a person’s immune system cannot contain the TB germs and the germs actively grow and cause a person to be sick. They have symptoms and may spread TB to others.

For more information review the BCCDC TB Manual, Section 4b, [TB Screening DST](#), Table 9