SA TB Services TB Clearance

All students MUST meet the screening requirements of SA TB Services as part of the pre-placement requirements for any clinical health setting.

There are three stages to the clearance process. Many students will only need to complete the first stage, however some students will also need to complete the second or third stage.

**IMPORTANT:** Some vaccinations can interfere with the blood test that is used to screen for Tuberculosis. For this reason, you should delay any vaccinations until AFTER you have been cleared by SA TB Services, or until you have received your IGRA test results.

**Stage 1: Online Questionnaire**


Once your responses have been assessed, you will receive an email from SA TB Services advising you that either:

a) You have completed the TB Screening requirements, OR
b) You are required to attend a GP to arrange an IGRA blood test

**Stage 2: General Practitioner (GP) – IGRA Test**

If you are instructed by SA TB Services to undergo an IGRA test, you will need to make an appointment with a GP. You are strongly encouraged to utilise the [Flinders University Health Service](https://www.flinders.edu.au/health). You should bring along this bundle of information to all of your appointments. At your first appointment, the GP will arrange your blood test.

You will be required to see the GP again for your results at a follow-up appointment. Your GP will complete the *Tuberculosis Clearance by General Practitioner* form. Based on your test results, your GP will either:

a) Sign off indicating that you have completed the TB Screening requirements, OR
b) Submit a referral to the Chest Clinic at the RAH directly.

**Stage 3: Chest Clinic**

If your GP refers you to the Chest Clinic, you will receive an appointment posted to you for the Chest Clinic at the Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH). The Chest Clinic may require additional testing or prescribe treatment. Once the doctors at the Chest Clinic are satisfied that any Tuberculosis risk has been managed, you will be issued with a certificate indicating that you have completed the TB Screening Requirements.

**Once you are advised that you have completed the TB Screening Requirements, you must provide evidence of this to your College.**
Tuberculosis Clearance by General Practitioner

This form is to be completed by a General Practitioner (GP). It is ONLY for students that have completed the online TB Screening Questionnaire and been advised that further TB screening is required.

Student name:_________________________________________Student ID:_________________________________________

I declare that:

- An IGRA (Interferon gamma release assay) blood test (also known as QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus / QFT-Plus) has been undertaken for the above named student.

- I have assessed the IGRA results and (tick one box only):

  - The IGRA result was negative (≤0.35) and
  - The student is not immune suppressed

On this basis the student has completed their TB screening requirement.

  - The IGRA result was positive (>0.35) and/or
  - The student is immune suppressed

On this basis, I have completed a Request for Outpatient Appointment and referred the student to the Chest Clinic.

Print Name: ________________________________
Provider No.: ________________________________
Date: ________________________________
Signature: ________________________________

Practice Stamp or Address Here
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.

**SA TB Services is moving to a telehealth model until further notice in response to SA Health requirements regarding the COVID-19 outbreak.**

Please arrange for an IGRA (Interferon gamma release assay) blood test to be undertaken, also known as QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus (QFT-Plus), for ALL holders of this letter. The cost of this test is borne by the student (IGRA is approx. $70).

For all IGRA results returned positive, please arrange a chest x-ray and complete the referral on the reverse of this page. Please document the radiology provider. A TB medical officer will review the x-ray and follow up with the student will be arranged as required.

**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 must maintain the state-wide database for TB screening results.
- Test results take 5-10 business days to receive from SA Pathology.

**Assessment**

1. **Arrange for a chest x-ray** if
   - IGRA positive (>0.35)
   - Any immune suppressed individual AFTER an IGRA has been completed
   *Our preference is Bensons, Jones or Radiology SA for ease in viewing the films

2. If the IGRA is negative, the student can be cleared by you for clinical placement
3. If indeterminate result, test should be repeated
   - If repeat test remains indeterminate, discuss with CC doctor (7117 2967)

**Referring to the Chest Clinic**

- ALL students who receive a chest x-ray should be referred to the TB Clinic at the RAH.
  - Please complete the referral form on the reverse of this letter and fax to 7117 2998
- TB doctors will review the x-ray and determine any further actions or clear the student for placement.

**Clearing the student for placement**

- For all students with negative IGRA results, the GP can provide them with evidence required for clinical placements:
  - Sign-off in the appropriate place on a student’s immunisation form
  - Letter from the doctor stating that the student has completed their TB screening requirement

For more information

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

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REQUEST FOR OUTPATIENT APPOINTMENT
Student healthcare worker assessment
IGRA blood test AND chest x-ray MUST be completed before referral

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<th>Referral to</th>
<th>Hospital</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SA TB Services</td>
<td>RAH</td>
<td>7117 2900</td>
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<td>FAX 7117 2998</td>
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Student Details

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Date of Referral / / /

Reason for Referral (circle one)

1. POSITIVE IGRA + chest x-ray completed
   or
2. IMMUNESUPPRESSED + chest x-ray completed
   IGRA: Positive / Negative

Radiology Bensons / Jones / Radiology SA / Other: _____________

Notes

Referrer Details

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Practice

Address

Phone

Signature