



Use of Publicly Funded Tubersol® for Tuberculin Skin Tests (TST)

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) has received recent direction from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) that **publicly funded Tubersol® may only be used in the following situations:**



- Contacts of cases of active Tuberculosis
- Tests deemed to be “medically necessary” by the client’s physician or nurse practitioner, based on level of risk as identified in the Canadian Tuberculosis Standards, 7th edition (e.g. prior to beginning immunosuppressive therapy)
http://www.respiratoryguidelines.ca/sites/all/files/Canadian_TB_Standards_7th_Edition_ENG.pdf
- Clients *under* the age of 65 who are entering long-term care facilities. Note: Screening via TST is not recommended for clients over the age of 65.
- When required by an educational institution for admission or continuation in a day care or pre-school program, or a program of study in a school, community college, university or other educational institution.



The TST and documentation required in the above situations are OHIP-insured, and therefore the patient cannot be charged for the test or the documentation required.

Publicly funded Tubersol® is not to be used when TST is:

- Requested solely as a condition for obtaining employment
- Required by an employer on an annual or other periodic basis

In these situations, Tubersol® needs to be either:

- Acquired by a physician/nurse practitioner and sold to the patient
- Acquired by the patient from the pharmacy, via prescription from a physician/nurse practitioner.



For more information related to OHIP physician billing for TSTs in Ontario, please refer to the recent INFOBulletin issued January 30th, 2017 *Re: Tuberculosis (TS) skin test*

<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/ohip/bulletins/4000/bul4692.aspx> or contact your local OHIP Billing Office