

PLEASE PRESENT THIS LETTER TO YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER

Dear Healthcare Provider,

All UCSF students with educational/occupational risks related to communicable diseases are required to submit documentation of health requirements established by their school. UCSF follows the guidelines recommended by the Center for Disease Control to ensure students mitigate the risk of contracting or spreading infectious diseases. These requirements must be met in order for the student to register and attend classes.

Please assist the student in completing the requirements on the 'Immunization Form 2009' prior to commencement of their program. These immunizations and screenings are the next important steps in continuing their career as a healthcare professional.

Two-Step Testing:

Two-step testing is a strategy for telling the difference between boosted reactions and reactions caused by recent infection. This strategy means that if a person has a negative reaction to an initial skin test, he or she is given a second test 1 week later.

- If the reaction to the second test is positive, it probably is a boosted reaction (due to TB infection that occurred a long time ago).
- If the reaction to the second test is negative, the person is considered uninfected. In this person, a positive reaction to a skin test given later on will probably be due to recent infection.

Thus, because two-step testing provides accurate information about each student's baseline skin test reaction, two-step testing is used in UCSF's TB screening program for skin testing students prior to commencing their program.

BCG:

BCG is the short name for "bacilli Calmette-Guerin" vaccine. BCG is given to try to prevent the TB disease. In countries where TB is common, many people receive the BCG vaccine. A TB skin test will not be positive just because BCG was given.

If your patient had the BCG vaccine, please follow the guidelines below:

- BCG in the past 2 years; get a chest x-ray instead of PPD skin test
- Had BCG and never had a PPD skin test or had a skin test with < 10 mm reading (< 5 mm reading for immunosuppressed and those taking corticoid steroids); get a PPD skin test
- Had BCG and a positive PPD skin test of 10 mm or > (5 mm or greater reading for immunosuppressed and those taking corticoid steroids); treat as a positive skin test

Live Virus Vaccination:

Live virus vaccinations may interfere with TB reactions. For this reason **TB skin tests should be administered 1) on the same day or before live virus vaccinations or 2) 4 to 6 weeks after the administration of a live virus vaccine and 3) at least one month after smallpox vaccination.**

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TDAP:

Students are strongly encouraged to have a Tdap vaccination if they are due for a tetanus shot or if their tetanus shot is greater than 2 years old. Some rotations off-campus require students have this vaccination and SHS can not verify unless we have record of it. Also, travel is common among students and students will need an up-to-date tetanus/diphtheria.

Titers and Vaccines:

A student may meet the requirements by providing proof of immunization or positive titers. Most residencies and clinical rotations require proof of titers. If the student has immunizations please provide and submit titer results as well. Receiving these services now will save the student time and money down the road.

If you are able to satisfy both criteria please submit both vaccine and positive titer information on their form. If a student satisfies the vaccine requirement and also has documentation of a negative titer, the student should complete the vaccine requirement only. Do not add negative titer information to the form; documentation of a negative titer should be submitted as an attachment to the completed form.

Requirement(s) Met	Provider Action	Titer Result	Student Action
Immunizations only	Draw blood titer	Positive	Submit immunizations and titers on form and online
Immunizations only	Draw blood titer	Negative	Submit immunizations on form and online; submit documentation of negative titer as attachment to form
Immunizations and Positive titer	Verify student documents	N/A	Submit immunizations and titers on form and online
Immunizations and Negative titer	Verify student documents	N/A	Submit immunizations on form and online; submit documentation of negative titer as attachment to form

If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact UCSF Student Health and Counseling at (415) 476-1281.

Thank you for your valuable contribution in fulfilling these health requirements!