**Tuberculosis and intradermal injection camp handout**

Question - What is tuberculosis (or TB) and why might we want to screen people for TB before they begin a job in healthcare?

**TB facts**

1. TB is a highly contagious disease caused by a bacterium, mycobacterium tuberculosis, that is carried on mucous droplets suspended in the air.
2. The bacteria usually affect the lungs, which is known as pulmonary tuberculosis
3. TB is an airborne disease
4. People can be exposed to TB when they spend time with a person who is infected with TB
5. When the infected person coughs, breathes, sings, laughs or sneezes, he or she may spread the disease.
6. TB causes coughing, trouble breathing, fever, weight loss and fatigue.
7. Usually it is cured by taking all prescribed medication.
8. However, if left untreated TB may cause death
9. There are two types of TB; Latent TB and Active TB
10. Someone with Latent TB carries the disease but does not show symptoms and cannot infect others.
11. A person with active TB shows symptoms of the disease and can spread TB to others. Latent TB infection can progress to TB disease
12. The following are signs and symptoms of TB: fatigue, loss of appetite, weight loss, slight fever and chills, night sweats, prolonged coughing, coughing up blood, chest pain, shortness of breath, trouble breathing
13. TB is more likely to spread in areas of poor ventilation or in small, confined spaces.
14. People are more likely to get TB disease if their immune systems are weakened by illness, malnutrition, cancer, HIV/AIDs, or other diseases.
15. Some forms of TB have mutated and they are called drug resistant TB.
16. All employees in healthcare settings are generally tested for TB before they can begin working, and then they may be tested annually.
17. There are two kinds of tests to detect TB bacteria in the body: the TB skin test and TB blood tests.
18. A positive TB skin test or TB blood test only tells that a person has been infected with the TB bacteria. IT does not tell whether the person has latent or active TB.
19. Certain people should be tested for TB infection because they are at higher risk for being infected with TB bacteria, including: People who have spent time with someone with TB, People from Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Russia, people who live or work in high-risk settings (for example: correctional facilities, long-term care facilities, and homeless shelters).

**Activities**

1. Watch 5 things to know about TB video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wA_fObLY6GE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7jJBGxS_6_Q>

1. Watch TB subdermal injection youtube videos

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mmc1ImuKJ1g

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p9Ot3DmOJlI>

* Practice this skill on a hotdog taped to the desk.

1. Watch the following video on how a TB test is read

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9LgK3ynaKfI>

**Conclusion**

**Questions -**

**1 Turn to a partner and discuss 3 things you learned about TB**

**2. Why is the TB (PPD skin test) called a 2 step TB test?**

**3. Why might it be a requirement before you start a job in healthcare to be instructed to get a 2 step skin TB test (a PPD test)**