

NEW MEXICO HEALTH ALERT NETWORK (HAN) ADVISORY

New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) Announces the resumption of Tuberculosis Testing Requirement for all Newly Hired Healthcare Workers (HCW)

TB testing of new HCWs to resume April 15, 2021
April 1, 2021

With cases of COVID-19 declining and the return to the provision of essential services, the temporary deferment of tuberculosis (TB) testing requirements for health care facilities will be lifted starting April 15, 2021.

- TB testing of newly hired healthcare workers using TB skin testing or TB IGRA (blood tests) should resume following standing requirements.
- Facilities that deferred TB Testing must complete TB testing on those HCWs that were deferred within 30 days of the deferment lifted (April 15, 2021) or, if applicable, 4 weeks after the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccination (see below).
- CDC guidance for TB Testing and COVID vaccinations allows for a delay in TB testing ≥ 4 weeks after the completion of COVID-19 vaccination. Delay in testing due to COVID vaccination should be documented. Refer to CDC Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html#laboratory-testing>
- New guidelines for testing Healthcare workers was released in 2019 and can be found at https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6819a3.htm?s_cid=mm6819a3_w

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