



# Public Health Advisory

**Date:** January 7, 2014

**Subject:** 1. Reminder: TB Skin Testing Eligibility Requirements  
2. Region of Waterloo TST Clinic – Fee Increase  
3. Changes to Tubersol Distribution Process

## Reminder re Eligibility Changes:

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) has updated their eligibility requirements for publicly funded TB skin testing (TBST).

Tubersol is publicly funded for the following individuals:

- Contacts of an active case of TB
- Medically indicated individuals that are at an increased risk of developing active TB due to impaired immunity (e.g. HIV, diabetes, renal failure, and immunosuppressant medications)
- Individuals requiring admission to treatment rehabilitation centres
- Resident admissions to Long-Term Care facilities

Tubersol is not publicly funded for 3<sup>rd</sup> party requests, including:

- Employment or Educational requirements
- Volunteer Placements

## Region of Waterloo TBST Clinic – Fee Increase starting February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014:

As of February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, publicly funded Tubersol will only be used for individuals who meet the eligibility requirements as listed above.

For 3<sup>rd</sup> party requests, Region of Waterloo Public Health will be purchasing Tubersol directly from the manufacturer, and as a result, increasing our clinic fees to:

- 1-Step TB Skin Test: \$25.00
- 2-Step TB Skin Test: \$50.00

## Changes to Tubersol Distribution Process:

As of February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, publicly funded Tubersol will continue to be distributed for individuals who meet the new eligibility requirements as listed above.

For 3<sup>rd</sup> party requests, Public Health will no longer be distributing Tubersol within the community. Physicians or facilities may purchase Tubersol directly from Sanofi Pasteur by calling 1-800-268-4171.

Clients with a prescription can also pick-up Tubersol at a local pharmacy, but would be responsible for the entire cost of the vial, as Tubersol is not available in single-dose vials.

For further information please call Region of Waterloo Public Health,  
Infectious Disease & TB Control Program at 519-575-4400 Ext. 13005 TTY: 519-575-4608