

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 3rd party requests, including:

- Employment or Educational requirements
- Volunteer Placements

Region of Waterloo TBST Clinic – Fee Increase starting February 1st, 2014:

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

For 3rd 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 1st, 2014, publicly funded Tubersol will continue to be distributed for individuals who meet the new eligibility requirements as listed above.

For 3rd 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