

Update of Recommendations for the Use of Tuberculin and Isoniazid for Screening and Treating Tuberculosis Infection – May 7, 2014

This communication is to provide an update to earlier recommendations regarding a nationwide shortage of tuberculin used for tuberculosis skin testing (TST). The shortage involved both commercial products: TUBERSOL® (Sanofi Pasteur Limited), and APLISOL® (JHP Pharmaceuticals, LLC). In addition the shortage of Isoniazid used for treating both TB infection and disease as also been resolved.

Both shortages appear to be resolved. Please resume normal best practice activities and regulatory requirements in regards to screening for tuberculosis and for treating for TB Infection.

It is important to remember that low risk testing is not recommended by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment as it can produce false results. Please refer to the following lists of guidance related to best practices.

For Healthcare Workers and Health Care Facilities:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5417a1.htm?s_cid=rr5417a1_e

For Correctional Institutions:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5509a1.htm>

General Population and targeted Testing:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr4906a1.htm>

Using IGRA as an alternative to PPD and sometimes preferred screening tool:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5905a1.htm?s_cid=rr5905a1_e

Treatment of TB Infection:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6048a3.htm?s_cid=mm6048a3_w

AND

<http://www.cdc.gov/tb/topic/treatment/ltbi.htm>

Questions should be directed to Phil Griffin, KDHE TB Controller (pgriffin@kdheks.gov or 785-296-8893).