VOLUNTEER PROGRAM TUBERCULOSIS TESTING GUIDELINES

In compliance with Nationwide Children’s Hospital Infections Control Policy IX-1, the following procedures outline the Volunteer Programs guidelines for preventing the transmission of tuberculosis, specifically with volunteers. These procedures are a collaborative effort between Epidemiology, Employee Health, and TCFSH Volunteer Program. All volunteers at TCFSH and Nationwide Children’s Hospital are required to comply with this plan.

NEW ADULT VOLUNTEERS:

All **adult volunteers**, those 18 years (19 for TCFSH) and older and new to The Center for Family Safety and Healing’s volunteer program, are required to be tested for tuberculosis prior to their volunteer service. Method of implementation:

1. All new adult volunteers will receive a baseline QFT-Gold test, provided free of charge, by Nationwide Children’s Hospital. This test can be administered by nurses in Employee Health or in the NCH outpatient lab.
2. If a new volunteer has a current negative TB test from another provider, they still must have the QFT-Gold blood test before they can volunteer.
3. Follow-up and counseling for a positive TB test will be provided by Employee Health.

CURRENT ADULT VOLUNTEERS:

**Current adult** volunteers are those that are 18 years (19 for TCFSH) and older and already active in the TCFSH volunteer program. Expectations of current volunteers are as follows:

1. Current volunteers will be required to have a 1-step PPD as part of their mandatory annual retraining.
2. Current volunteers will complete their TB testing annually during their retraining month.
3. Current volunteers may go to Employee Health on designated days/hours to have PPD placed and return as directed by Employee Health to have it read. There is no charge.
4. If a current volunteer has a current negative TB test from another provider, documentation of that test, must be provided to Employee Health. TB tests must be less than 6 months old to be considered current.
5. Follow-up and counseling for a positive TB test which was administered at NCH will be provided by Employee Health.
Volunteers returning to the program after being inactive due to a leave of absence or a termination will meet TB requirements based on the following criteria:

1. If the returning volunteer’s last date of service was within the previous 12 months, he or she will be required to have a 1-step PPD as part of their mandatory annual retraining.

2. If the returning volunteer’s last date of service was over 12 months, he or she will receive a QFT-Gold test, provided free of charge, by Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Employee Health. This may be part of annual retraining or orientation, if the volunteer has been separated from the program for a lengthy period, as determined by the Volunteer Coordinator.

**TEEN VOLUNTEERS:**

The Center for Family Safety and Healing does not permit teen volunteers, thus no guidelines are needed for teens volunteers.

**TRACKING:**

Employee Health will maintain documentation and tracking of TB results of volunteers and report results to Volunteer Program for follow-up.