



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

DATE: February 19, 2021

Behavioral Health Information Notice No: 21-009

TO: California Alliance of Child and Family Services
California Association for Alcohol/Drug Educators
California Association of Alcohol & Drug Program Executives, Inc.
California Association of DUI Treatment Programs
California Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies
California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals
California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies
California Hospital Association
California Opioid Maintenance Providers
California State Association of Counties
Coalition of Alcohol and Drug Associations
County Behavioral Health Directors
County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California
County Drug & Alcohol Administrators

SUBJECT: Tuberculosis (TB) Testing Requirement in Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Facilities during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

PURPOSE: Provide guidance to AOD facilities required to TB test personnel and clients during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

REFERENCE: [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines - CDC](#)

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 9, Section 10564(e)(1), the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) requires that all personnel of AOD facilities shall be screened for good health, including *“a test for tuberculosis, performed under licensed medical supervision not more than sixty (60) days prior to or seven (7) days after employment with tuberculosis testing renewable every year.”* Additionally, CCR, Title 9, Section 10567(b) states, *“Every resident shall be tested for tuberculosis under licensed medical supervision within six (6) months prior to or thirty (30) days after admission and annually thereafter if continuous participation is maintained.”*

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The Center of Disease Control Prevention (CDC) released new recommendations for preventing, reporting, and managing mRNA COVID-19 vaccine administration errors. Included in these guidelines are additional information and updated recommendations for those who plan to receive, or have received the mRNA COVID-19 vaccine, and also require testing for TB infection. According to the CDC, TB testing can be done before or at the same time as mRNA COVID-19 vaccination, or otherwise delayed for ≥ 4 weeks after the completion of mRNA COVID-19 vaccination.

POLICY:

DHCS recognizes the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines | CDC](#) guidelines and encourages personnel and clients of AOD facilities to adhere to the CDC recommendations for TB testing during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

If TB testing is delayed as a result of complying with the CDC's guidelines for the mRNA COVID-19 vaccination, personnel and clients shall provide the AOD facility with their COVID-19 vaccination record for purposes of verifying their health status in accordance with 9 CCR §§ 10564 and 10567.

If you have questions about this Information Notice, please contact the Licensing and Certification Officer of the Day at (916) 322-2911 or LCDQuestions@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Janelle Ito-Orille, Chief
Licensing and Certification Division