



# Hands on Safety

## "Being Safe Is No Accident"



### Statewide TB Testing

Per DRC Policy 31-SEM-09 Employee Tuberculosis Skin Testing, TB skin testing will be conducted during the month of September. All department employees are **strongly** encouraged to participate in the annual TB screening program due to the greater prevalence of TB in the correctional setting. Such testing, however, is mandatory for all employees who work in an institutional setting, visit such facilities, or have regular contact with offenders.

TB skin testing will be provided on-site for Central Office employees. TB skin testing for Adult Parole Authority (APA) field staff may be available at a DRC institution located within their region, per mutual agreement between the institution and the APA Regional supervisor. The nursing staff at the institution shall provide TB skin testing on-site on an annual basis.

Tuberculin skin tests are evaluated 2-3 days after being administered.

All employees who report a history of a prior positive TB skin test must provide written documentation of this test result. **The employee will be responsible for any costs associated with obtaining this documentation.** If no written documentation is available, then the employee must submit to a TB skin test, as defined by the Ohio Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control. Employees may choose to go to their family physician or public health department for testing; however, **they must do this on their own time and expense.** If an employee has documented history of a prior positive TB skin test they must be evaluated by their family physician yearly for signs and symptoms of active disease. They must provide the institution with documentation from their physician that they do not exhibit signs or symptoms at the time of the institutions annual TB skin test. A chest x-ray is not required by ODRC.

From the DRC Statewide Health and Safety Committee



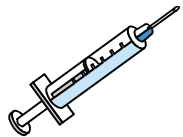
## TB Testing (con't)

All staff testing positive for tuberculosis must be evaluated by their personal physicians and shall present documentation of this evaluation for inclusion in their confidential medical file. Note: This does not require that the employee be off duty until results of the evaluation are received. The employee may return to duty immediately after the evaluation unless ordered to remain off work by the treating physician.

Administrative leave shall be granted for the initial visit to the employee's personal physician for evaluation. Any additional time off must be covered in accordance with the normal sick leave procedures. Any co-payments associated with follow-up evaluation of **the initial** positive TB skin test may be submitted to the institution Business Office for reimbursement.

Employees who have positive TB skin tests shall be evaluated by their personal physician annually.

**Failure to comply with annual TB skin testing for those who are required to participate may result in disciplinary action for failure to comply with DRC policy and/or insubordination.**



The Intranet for DRC employees has a health and safety website with various health and safety resources. Some items posted for review are approved outside agency web links, DRC Safety protocol and additional Safety and Health Coordinator Basic, Intermediate and Advanced training classes. You can access the Office of Prisons Safety and Health Program at:

<http://intra.drc.state.oh.us/web/OOP/safety.htm>

## Agency Health & Safety Committee Members

- Alan Lazaroff (Management Co-Chair)
- Dave Justice (Bargaining Unit Co-Chair)
- Dave Bailey (Bargaining Unit)
- Jody Burkhardt (Management)
- Bridgette Duncan (Bargaining Unit)
- Bob Hausen (Bargaining Unit)
- Ed Henderson (In Memoriam)
- Stuart Hudson (Management)
- Stephanie Lee (Bargaining Unit)
- Chris Mabe (Bargaining Unit)
- Bryant Palmer (Management)
- Kevin Runyon (Management)
- Danny Southward (Management)
- Julie Walburn (Management)
- Charlie Williamson (Bargaining Unit)
- Chere Wilson (Bargaining Unit)

