ADMINISTER THE TEST

Prepare the Materials

1. Wash hands and put on gloves.
2. Explain to patient why test is being done and how it will be performed.
3. Check expiration/opening date on PPD vial.
4. Place patient’s arm on flat surface, exposing palm side surface of forearm.
5. Locate injection site (2-4 inches below elbow; no scars, bumps, veins).
6. Clean injection site with alcohol swab.
7. Wipe top of vial with new alcohol swab.
8. Place vial on flat surface and insert syringe into vial.
9. Invert vial, keeping needle tip below fluid level.
10. Pull back plunger, drawing in slightly more than 0.1 ml PPD solution.
11. Remove syringe from vial and tap lightly to dispel air bubbles.
12. Hold syringe point up and expel air/excess fluid, leaving exactly 0.1 ml PPD solution in syringe.

Inject the PPD Solution

1. Stretch skin of injection site with the thumb of your non-dominant hand.
2. Insert needle intradermally, bevel up, at a 5-15 degree angle.
3. Inject the PPD solution slowly (you should feel firm resistance).
4. Remove needle (DO NOT RECAP) and discard immediately in sharps container.
5. Ensure 6-10 mm diameter wheal (measure using TST ruler).

If wheal < 6 mm, repeat test 2 inches from site, or on opposite arm. If wheal is still < 6 mm, talk to supervisor.

Keep the PPD Vial Cool

- Always store in refrigerator
- Place in cooling container when in use

Educate Your Patient

1. Educate patient on possible reactions and care of the TST site.
2. Document each test on the patient card.
3. Schedule patient for an appointment to read the test in 48-72 hours.
READ THE RESULTS

Measure the Induration

1. **Inspect** visually for reaction at injection site.
2. **Palpate** for hard, dense, and raised formation (induration).
3. **Mark** opposite edges of induration with dots, using a black water mark pen.
4. **Measure** induration (not redness) **transversely**, from one marked edge to the other, using a TST ruler.
5. **Interpret** positive/negative results based on size of induration and risk factors (see chart below).
6. **Explain** meaning of positive/negative results and necessary follow-up.
7. **Give** patient literature and copy of TST results.
8. **Document** results in your medical records.

Interpret the Test Results

The following measurements of induration are classified as positive, based on individual risk factors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDURATION DIAMETER</th>
<th>INDIVIDUAL RISK FACTORS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;5 mm</td>
<td>Positive test result for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Persons with HIV infection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Recent contacts of persons with active TB disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Persons with evidence of old, healed TB lesions on chest X-rays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Persons with organ transplants and other immunosuppressed persons, including those receiving prolonged corticosteroid therapy (the equivalent of &gt;15 mg/d of prednisone for one month or more) and TNF-α blockers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;10 mm</td>
<td>Positive test result for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Persons who have immigrated within the past 5 years from areas with high TB rates*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Injection drug users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Persons who live or work in institutional settings where exposure to TB may be likely, such as hospitals, prisons, homeless shelters, SROs, and nursing homes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Mycobacteriology laboratory personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Persons with clinical conditions associated with increased risk of progression to active TB, including: silicosis; chronic renal failure; diabetes; more than 10% below ideal weight or BMI &lt; 18.5; gastrectomy/jejunoileal bypass; some hematologic disorders (such as leukemia and lymphomas); and certain cancers (such as carcinoma of the head, neck, or lung, leukemias, and lymphomas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Children &lt; 5 years, and children or adolescents exposed to adults in high-risk categories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Persons with prolonged stay in areas with high TB rates*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;15 mm</td>
<td>Positive test result for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Persons at low risk for active TB disease for whom testing is not generally indicated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Countries with high rates of TB include China, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, India, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, South Korea, and all of Africa.


ALWAYS WASH HANDS AND CHANGE GLOVES AFTER EACH PATIENT

For more information, providers can call (212) 788-4162