



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

21 APR 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Directive 2015-20 (Tuberculosis (TB) Screening and Testing Procedures for Child, Youth and School (CYS) Services Personnel)

1. References:

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 608-10 (Child Development Services), 15 July 1997.
- b. AR 40-5 (Preventive Medicine), 25 May 2007.
- c. U.S. Army Medical Command (MEDCOM) Regulation No. 40-64 (The Tuberculosis Surveillance and Control Program), 26 November 2013.
- d. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Core Curriculum on Tuberculosis: What the Clinician Should Know, Sixth Edition 2013.
- e. CDC Targeted Tuberculin Testing and Treatment of Latent Tuberculosis Infection, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report Recommendations and Reports, June 9, 2000, Vol. 49, No. RR-6.

2. Purpose. This directive issues policy for the routine TB screening and testing for CYS Services personnel.

3. Policy

- a. AR 608-10 currently requires all prospective CYS employees to undergo a tuberculin skin test or chest x-ray to test for TB. This directive revises the TB testing requirement. Both the CDC and the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) recommend changing TB testing policy to target individuals at high risk and discourage the testing of those at low risk.
- b. Effective immediately, all CYS Services personnel will have a preemployment medical evaluation. CYS Services personnel are not considered at high risk for TB; therefore, routine TB skin testing and/or a chest x-ray are not recommended. Targeted TB testing will only be performed for those CYS Services personnel known to have been exposed to the disease as identified during the preemployment evaluation. The preemployment evaluation for those applicants with a known TB exposure will include a tuberculin skin test or chest x-ray and other tests the occupational health service deems appropriate.

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c. The occupational health service staff and health consultant should also consider the requirements for immunization against other significant vaccine-preventable diseases among caregiving employees, Family Child Care providers and children.

4. Process. The updated TB screening procedures that follow replace the TB testing requirement in AR 608-10.

a. The MEDCOM Initial Entry TB Risk Assessment will be used to screen all prospective CYS Services personnel before their employment or certification. Diagnostic tests will be used in accordance with CDC guidance.

b. A TB risk assessment will be used for CYS Services personnel who report exposure to TB.

c. Diagnostic tests, including tuberculin skin tests and chest x-rays, will only be conducted based on a medical provider's evaluation and determination.

d. Installations should request authority to solicit services from private practitioners when long wait times for preemployment physical examinations at occupational health or military treatment facilities (MTFs) result in critical delays in onboarding nonappropriated fund employees. The examinations will be at no cost to the individuals until wait times meet established metrics (30 days). In these cases, nonappropriated fund employees must provide copies of the completed TB assessment and proof of any needed diagnostic tests to the MTF's occupational health services.

5. U.S. Army Installation Management Command will:

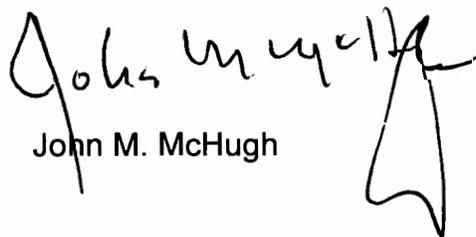
a. ensure compliance with updated TB screening and testing procedures and disseminate this information to all installation CYS Services programs no later than 30 April 2015. Notify the point of contact in the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, Installation Services Directorate, Soldier and Family Readiness Division, of installation compliance by 15 May 2015.

b. provide installations with operational guidance to ensure compliance with this policy and procedures.

c. ensure that CYS Service employees who receive TB-related healthcare services from private practitioners provide copies of the completed TB assessment as required in reference 1c and proof of any diagnostic test(s) to MTF occupational health services in accordance with the guidance in paragraph 4d.

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- 6. This directive is effective immediately and supersedes existing policy for the tuberculin skin test in AR 608-10. However, implementation of the requirements in this directive is subject to the satisfaction of applicable labor relations obligations.
- 7. The Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management is the proponent for this policy and will incorporate the provisions of this directive into AR 608-10. This directive is rescinded upon publication of the revised regulation.
- 8. This policy applies to all CYS Services employees.


John M. McHugh

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