



## SA TB Services TB Clearance

All students **MUST** meet the screening requirements of SA TB Services as part of the pre-placement requirements for any clinical health setting.

There are three stages to the clearance process. Many students will only need to complete the first stage; however some students will also need to complete the second or third stage.

**IMPORTANT:** Some vaccinations can interfere with the blood test that is used to screen for Tuberculosis. For this reason, you should delay any vaccinations until AFTER you have been cleared by SA TB Services, or until you have received your IGRA test results.

### Stage 1: Online Questionnaire

Complete the online questionnaire found at <https://tbq.sahealth.sa.gov.au/tbquestionnaire>.

Once your responses have been assessed, you will receive an email from SA TB Services advising you that either:

- a) You have completed the TB Screening requirements, OR
- b) You are required to attend a GP to arrange an IGRA blood test

### Stage 2: General Practitioner (GP) – IGRA Test

If you are instructed by SA TB Services to undergo an IGRA test, you will need to make an appointment with a GP. You are strongly encouraged to utilise the [Flinders University Health Service](#). You should bring along this bundle of information to all your appointments. At your first appointment, the GP will arrange your blood test.

You will be required to see the GP again for your results at a follow-up appointment. Your GP will complete the *TB Clearance for Clinical Placement Healthcare Worker* form. Based on your test results, your GP will either:

- a) Sign off indicating that you have completed the TB Screening requirements, OR
- b) Submit a request for a chest x-ray and for you to make another appointment with GP to review the chest x-ray results.

### Stage 3: Chest X-Ray Completed

Your GP will review the chest x-ray and perform a TB symptom check

- a) If the GP determines you are suitable to undertake placement, they will complete the 'TB Clearance for Clinical Placement Healthcare Worker' form indicating follow up with SATB is not required.
- b) If the GP determines you are exhibiting TB symptoms or concerns with your chest x-ray they will refer you to the Chest Clinic, you will receive an appointment posted to you for the Chest Clinic at the Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH). The Chest Clinic may require additional testing or prescribe treatment. Once the doctors at the Chest Clinic are satisfied that any Tuberculosis risk has been managed, you will be issued with a certificate indicating that you have completed the TB Screening Requirements.

**Once you are advised that you have completed the TB Screening Requirements, you must provide evidence of this to your College.**

# SA Tuberculosis Services

## Student Healthcare Worker Screening

Dear Doctor,

This student has undertaken an online TB Screening Questionnaire which indicates the need for further TB screening prior to the commencement of their clinical placement. They have been asked to contact a general practitioner to help arrange a QuantiFERON TB Gold Plus (QFT Plus) blood test, also referred to as IGRA (Interferon gamma release assay).

**For all IGRA results returned negative, the GP ordering the test can clear the student for clinical placements.**

**If the IGRA result is positive, please then arrange a chest x-ray and complete a TB symptom check. If there are no signs of active TB, the GP can clear the student, but must also refer them to SATB Services for follow-up.**

**Please contact us if you have any urgent concerns or if the student is exhibiting any symptoms.**

**SYMPTOM CHECK: 3-4 weeks cough, fever, or unexplained weight loss.**

### Screening Instructions

#### Defer the IGRA if the student has had

- > a fever or infection in the past month
- > received any live vaccinations in the past month (e.g. measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), yellow fever, chicken pox (varicella), shingles)

#### Ordering the IGRA

- > Add SA TB Services (RAH) as a recipient of the result on the pathology request form. We maintain a state-wide database for TB screening results. Where possible, please use SA Pathology for ease in receiving results.
- > Test results can take 5-10 business days to receive from SA Pathology.

#### Assessment

1. If the IGRA is **negative**, the student can be cleared by you for clinical placement
2. If the IGRA is **indeterminate** the test should be repeated
  - a. If the repeat test remains indeterminate, **discuss with SATBS medical staff** (7117 2967)
3. **Arrange for a chest x-ray AND administer symptom check** (attached) if:
  - a. IGRA **positive** (TB Antigen >0.35 IU/ml)
  - b. Any **immune suppressed** individual **regardless** of the IGRA result

\*Our preference is Bensons, Jones & Partners or Radiology SA for ease in viewing the films

#### Clearing the student for placement

- > For all students with **negative** IGRA results who are not immunocompromised, please provide them with evidence required for clinical placements:
  - Sign-off in the appropriate place on a student's immunisation form OR
  - Use the attached clearance certificate
- > For all students with **positive** IGRA results, or if the student is immunocompromised
  - IF the chest x-ray is normal, clearance for clinical placements can be given, provided there is no evidence of active TB disease. Please use the attached clearance certificate.
  - Refer all positive IGRAs to SATBS using the provided request for referral, attached.

### For more information

Royal Adelaide Hospital, SA TB Services, Clinic 3E  
Telephone: (08) 7117 2967 Fax: (08) 7117 2998  
Monday-Friday, 8:45am-4:30pm



### TB Clearance for Clinical Placements Student Healthcare Worker

This document, signed by a GP or authorised healthcare worker, may be accepted as TB clearance for students attending clinical placements.

#### Student Details

First Name		Last name	
DOB	/	/	
Address			
Phone			

#### Symptom Check

3-4 week cough       Fever       Unexplained weight loss

**\*If any of the above, please refer immediately to SATB Services\***

NONE of the above

This certifies that the student named above has completed the requirements for tuberculosis screening prior to undertaking clinical placements, as recommended by SA Tuberculosis Services.

Follow up with SATB Services: (circle one)

**Is not required**

**Is required**

Fax Referral to:  
SATB Services 7117 2998

**Clearance Date**

/ /

#### GP Details

Name	
Practice	
Address	
Phone	
Signature	





**REFERRAL  
REQUEST FOR TB APPOINTMENT**  
**Student healthcare worker assessment**

**IGRA blood test AND chest x-ray MUST be completed before referral**

Referral to	<b>SA TB Services</b>	Hospital	RAH
FAX	7117 2998	Phone	7117 2900

**Student Details**

First Name		Last name	
DOB	/ /		
Address			
Phone			
Date of Referral	/ /		
Reason for Referral (please circle)	<p align="center">1. POSITIVE IGRA + chest x-ray completed</p> <p align="center">2. IMMUNESUPPRESSED + chest x-ray completed IGRA: Positive / Negative</p> <p align="center">3. SYMPTOMS that may indicate Active TB</p>		
Radiology	Bensons / Jones / Radiology SA / Other: _____		
Notes			

**Referrer Details**

Name	
Practice	
Address	
Phone	
Signature	