

TUBERCULOSIS (TB) TESTING AND SCREENING FOR HOMELESS SHELTER TB CLIENTS



1. What are the symptoms of TB?

- Coughing for more than 2 weeks
- Pain in chest
- Fever
- Chills
- Night sweats
- Coughing up blood and/or mucus
- Weight loss
- No appetite
- Shortness of breath

2. What is a TB test like?

- A medical provider will ask you a few questions to learn if you have any TB symptoms, or if you were around anyone with TB. The medical provider will then take a TB test. It may be a skin test, blood test, or a chest X-ray.

3. How often should I be TB tested?

- Once before you enter the shelter
- Once a year, or per the rules of a shelter
- If you think that you've been in contact with someone with TB disease

4. How do I get TB clearance for shelter entry?

- You'll need to get paperwork from a medical provider showing that you had a TB test, and that there is no TB in your lungs.

5. What if I don't have a TB clearance at the time of shelter entry?

- Clients who need TB clearance will be referred for a TB screening either onsite or offsite. They must bring back the TB clearance paperwork within 7 days of shelter entry.

For More Information

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Tuberculosis Control Program
(213) 745-0800 or visit www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/tb