



# Practice Briefs

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**Should I screen new employees or residents for Tuberculosis in long-term care?**

**YES.**

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and the CDC both agree that long-term care facilities should screen new employees and residents for Tuberculosis. Screening may consist of skin test or blood test, and an accompanying questionnaire.

Initial screening should be performed on:

- People who live or work in high-risk settings (for example: correctional facilities, long-term care facilities or nursing homes, and homeless shelters)<sup>1</sup>

Guidance on how to test for TB:

[https://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/factsheets/testing/testingfortb\\_revised.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/factsheets/testing/testingfortb_revised.pdf)

Accessed 12/13/17

Nebraska Guidance on TB testing, treatment, control and prevention:

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Documents/policies.pdf>.

Accessed December 13, 2017

Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in Health-Care Settings, 2005

[https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5417a1.htm?s\\_cid=rr5417a1\\_e](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5417a1.htm?s_cid=rr5417a1_e).

Accessed December 13, 2017

**Reference:**

1. Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in Health-Care Settings, December 30, 2005 / 54(RR17);1-141

*ICAP is a cooperative effort of UNMC/Nebraska Medicine and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. "ICAP Practice Briefs" are intended to provide evidence-based guidance on infection prevention issues; check linked references directly for the most current and more detailed information.*