



Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES
Bureau for Public Health
Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services
Division of Tuberculosis Elimination

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 15, 2013

TO: Administrators and TB Nurses, All Local Health Departments

FROM: Carmen M. Priddy, Director
Division of Tuberculosis Elimination

RE: PPD Shortage

This is a letter to inform all of you regarding decisions and recommendations made concerning TB testing of newly hired personnel to WV schools and new transfers from out of state as required by WV law. It appears as if the PPD shortage is continuing with no end in sight in the near future. Sanofi has pushed it back to November...yet again!! We are all virtually out of PPD, and T-SPOT is the only other test available to us. After giving this much thought, we don't believe that we can sustain the testing by T-SPOT of newly hired teachers to WV schools or transfer students from other states as required by WV law. These persons are mostly low risk for TB and testing with T-SPOT is much too costly.

The WV Division of TB Elimination has decided that these individuals may have a TB Risk Assessment done, and **IF** they are high risk, they may be tested by T-SPOT. Otherwise, they will be given a letter of deferral until the PPD supplies are replenished. **If a new transfer student or new Board of Education personnel present to your health department for testing, do the following:**

1. Do a TB Risk Assessment (found on our website, <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/tuberculosis/Pages/default.aspx>)
2. If High Risk,
 - a. Do a T-SPOT

3. If Low Risk,
 - a. Give a letter of deferral (found on our website, <http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/tuberculosis/Pages/default.aspx>)
 - b. Write person's name and contact numbers on a list
 - c. Call persons on list after PPD supplies are replenished

As always, you may call or e-mail with any questions or concerns.

CMP/lw