

INTERPRETATION OF TUBERCULIN SKIN TEST REACTIONS IN ALASKA

Induration Size	Considered Positive For:
5 mm or more	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Recent contacts of a suspected or known case of tuberculosis (TB) disease▪ Persons suspected to have tuberculosis disease▪ Persons with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)▪ Persons with fibrotic lesions on chest radiograph consistent with healed TB▪ Persons with organ transplants or other immunosuppressed persons (such as those receiving the equivalent of >15 mg/day of prednisone for >1 month)▪ Persons receiving treatment with tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α) antagonists
10 mm or more	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ All others

In Alaska, a TST reaction of ≥ 10 mm is considered to indicate TB infection in all persons (as opposed to CDC cut-point of 15 mm for persons without risk factors). The rationale for Alaska's lower cut-point is based on: an increased risk for TB infection associated with Alaska's ongoing high rate of TB disease, a low rate of nontuberculous mycobacterial infection, and studies which show that previous BCG vaccination in infancy is unlikely to cause a TST of ≥ 10 mm.