

LONG TERM CARE Department of Health NEWSLETTER

ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter Issue 2014-05 September 8, 2014

In Today's Issue:

- Tuberculin Shortage Recommendations Rescinded

Tuberculin Guidelines Rescinded Effective September 5, 2014

A year ago a shortage of Tuberculin occurred resulting in prioritization recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and ISDH Division of TB and Refugee Health. The Tuberculin shortage has now been resolved. The Tuberculin shortage interim guidelines are therefore rescinded effective September 5, 2014.

Indiana State Department of Health's TB Program rescinds the recommendations for responding to the Tuberculin shortage issued last year and recommends a return to pre-shortage guidelines and practices. Do not perform testing immediately in order to 'catch up'. Begin any required testing at the next due date. Attached is the notice rescinding last year's recommendations.

We wish to thank all of you who made adjustments in your practices to accommodate this shortage. If you would like to review the pre-shortage guidelines for the use of Interferon Gamma Release Assay testing for tuberculosis, you can find the latest guidelines at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr5905.pdf.

If you have questions concerning how the return to pre-interim guidelines may affect your acute care or long term care regulatory survey, please contact the appropriate person below:

Acute and Ambulatory Care Randall Snyder, Director 317-233-1286 RSnyder@isdh.in.gov

Long Term Care Kim Rhoades. Director 317-233-7289 Krhoades@isdh.in.gov

For other questions please contact the Director of TB/Refugee Health at the Indiana State Department of Health, Sarah Burkholder (317) 233-7545 or email her at sburkholder@isdh.in.gov.