Brooks Alternative Agency Inc.

Tuberculosis Education/Questionnaire

The CDC has changed the requirements if a Health Care Worker (HCW) is exposed to TB. They now require a Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) be placed once exposure is confirmed and then again in 8-12 weeks. Having a "current" TST does not exclude a HCW from this requirement.

Please read over these facts about TB

- Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease which usually affects the lungs. It is spread from person to person through the airborne route when a person who has active disease coughs, sneezes or speaks.
- TB is caused by a bacterium called Mycobacterium Tuberculosis. If not treated properly TB can be fatal. Symptoms of TB include feeling of weakness, weight loss, fever, night sweats, chest pain, and coughing up blood.
- To prevent the spread of TB, HCW's caring for patients with TB need use appropriate respiratory protection (N95 particulate respirator). Transmission of TB has been associated with close contact of infectious patients by HCW's during cough-inducing procedures, like a bronchoscopy.
- Not everyone infected with TB becomes sick. There are 2 different TB related conditions; latent TB and active TB disease. People with latent TB have the TB germs in their bodies but are not sick because the germs are not active. They do not have symptoms of TB and cannot spread the germs to others although they may develop TB in the future. People with active TB are sick from the germs that are active. They usually have symptoms of TB and are capable of spreading the germs to others. People with active TB can be prescribed medication to help treat the disease.
- TB can be treated with medication. People taking medication for TB need to take the medication exactly as they are instructed. People who do not take the medication as prescribed or who stop the medication too soon may become sick again, and the germs that are still present in them may become resistant to the medication and more difficult to treat.
- People who are most likely to get sick from TB are; people with HIV, people who inject illegal drugs, babies/young children, the elderly, people who were not treated correctly for TB in the past, and people with certain chronic medical conditions.
- Patients with suspected or confirmed TB need to be placed in private rooms with negative airflow or HEPA filter units, on Airborne Precautions, and with the door closed.

Employee Signature: _____Date: _____

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Please check Yes or No if you have a NEW onset of the following symptoms and return this form to the Employee Health Department. Additional screening may be necessary depending on your symptoms.

Symptom Description	Yes	No
Fatigue, malaise		
Unexplained weight loss		
Anorexia, loss of appetite		
Fever		
Night Sweats		
Productive cough lasting more than 2 weeks		
Spitting up blood		
Chest pain		
Have a disease or taken medication which affects your immune system.		
Have you been out of the country?		
Have you been exposed to a known exposure?		

If yes, please explain:

_____

_____

I understand that if I develop any of these symptoms or believe that I was in contact with a patient who has TB, I should call Administrator immediately. If I have any questions, I can call the Administrator at 800-282-2208.

I declare that my answers and statements are correctly recorded, complete, and true to the best of my knowledge.

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____

Administrator Signature: _____ Date: _____