

Tuberculosis

Clinical diagnosis and management of tuberculosis, and measures for its prevention and control

Developed by The National Collaborating Centre for Chronic Conditions at the Royal College of Physicians

This guideline replaces the British Thoracic Society 1998 guideline and the 2000 code of practice

The guideline:

- provides full details of systematic reviews of the TB evidence base, health economic modelling, and the considerations from the Guideline Development Group
- provides complete TB best practice guidance for the first time since the switch to intradermal BCG, the adoption of Mantoux rather than Heaf testing, the scrapping of the school vaccination programme and the piloting of pre-entry chest X-ray screening for UK visa applicants
- is the only document to include the full analyses which informed the new policy for targeted neonatal BCG, the adoption of interferon-gamma testing as a second step after skin testing, and focussed new entrant screening over the age of 16
- provides selected recommendations as key priorities for implementation, algorithms for everyday practice use, and suggests topics for clinical audit as well as future research priorities.

The guideline is intended to inform the practice of respiratory physicians, infectious disease physicians, genitourinary physicians, TB and respiratory specialist nurses, consultants in communicable disease control and health protection, infection control nurses, prison medical service staff and nurses involved in refugee induction centres or specialised new entrant services.

Published April 2006

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