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Governor



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Director

**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



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## Technical Bulletin

**Date:** Updated September 3, 2021. Original Technical Bulletin 1/15/21 and first update 7/15/21  
**Topic:** Updated Tuberculosis (TB) Testing Recommendations Around COVID-19 Vaccinations  
**Contact:** Susan McElhany, DMD, Division of Public and Behavioral Health TB Program, Office of Public Health Investigations and Epidemiology, [smcelhany@health.nv.gov](mailto:smcelhany@health.nv.gov)  
**To:** Nevada Healthcare Providers, Healthcare Facilities, Public Health Departments, Correctional Facilities, Infection Preventionists, and Infection Control Departments

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### **Situation:**

On August 31, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its interim guidance on clinical considerations for use of the COVID-19 vaccines and included guidance on the timing of tuberculosis (TB) testing (see section "Laboratory Testing" in the full CDC guidance). The full updated CDC *Clinical Considerations* can be accessed at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>.

**Update:** The CDC is now recommending administering TB testing, such as a TB skin test or interferon gamma release assay (IGRA), without regard for the timing of COVID-19 vaccination.

- Testing for TB infection can be done before, during, or after a COVID-19 vaccination.
- Continued emphasis is placed on not delaying COVID-19 vaccination.
- The previous interim guidance of administering TB testing  $\geq$  four weeks after completion of any COVID-19 vaccination was recommended out of an abundance of caution given the newness of these vaccines.

The Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health TB Program agrees with these recommendations.

### **Resources:**

Nevada Administrative Codes related to TB Testing, NAC 441A.370-380:

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-441A.html#NAC441A>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention TB website: <https://www.cdc.gov/tb/default.htm>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 Vaccination website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health: <http://dpbh.nv.gov/>

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### **Questions:**

For updated guidance, please review the DPBH Technical Bulletin [website](#) and Nevada's health response [website](#) regularly.

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