

Tuberculosis (TB) Prevention and Control Service / Chest Clinics

**Services provided by
Tuberculosis (TB) Prevention and Control Service / Chest Clinics**

NSW has a network of TB Prevention and Control Service / Chest Clinics located across the state. The network aims to provide a comprehensive, culturally appropriate and accessible service to all. Our goals are to cure TB, reduce TB illness and prevent the spread of TB within the community.

The following are some of the free and confidential services provided by the TB Network:

Assessment and Diagnosis for TB:

- Investigations are conducted for suspected cases of tuberculosis
- Tuberculin skin testing to detect latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI)
- Coordinate and / or conduct screening and evaluation of people in close contact with infectious TB
- X-ray and pathology services for TB related checks
- Medical consultation for patients which includes admission to hospital & community care
- Medical consultation for TB contacts, the community and health care professionals
- Screening and monitoring of health care workers TB status

Treatment and Management:

- Coordination of individual treatment plans
- Directly observed treatment (DOT) at the clinic, home or work place
- Treatment of latent TB infection
- Arranging Health Care Interpreters for TB issues

Health Undertakings

- Assessment, screening, follow-up, monitoring and education of people on TB Health Undertakings (TBU). TBUs are issued by the Department of Immigration & Citizenship on persons entering Australia with chest x-ray assessments that need follow-up.

Refugee screening

- Assessment and screening of refugee children in conjunction with other health services.

BCG Vaccination

- BCG vaccination as recommended for select groups at risk of exposure to TB.

Education and counselling services

- Provide counselling and education for patients, the community and health care professionals on disease prevention, treatment, management and contact screening.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Accessing Services:

An appointment will be required for most services. To contact your nearest Clinic see details at the bottom of this page.

Changing appointments:

If you are unable to keep an appointment, please inform the Clinic so the time can be given to someone who needs an urgent appointment. Another suitable date and time can be arranged for you.

Delays to appointment times:

Every effort will be made to see you at your appointment time but there may be occasions when this is not possible due to reasons beyond our control: e.g. in an emergency, the doctor may be called away from the clinic.

Services in your home:

Some patients on treatment for TB meet the criteria for home visits. The nurse will give you a time when to expect her/him. However, there may be times when this is not possible due to other unforeseen commitments.

Please inform the nurse in advance if you will not be home at the arranged time.

Staff Security:

The security of our staff is important to us so we ask for your co-operation in helping to make sure they can visit your home safely. We ask that you restrain all animals when the nurse is due to visit. On the first home visit, our staff will check to see if there are any problems such as uneven paths that may cause them to fall. We will withdraw home visits if we consider our staff cannot visit safely and make alternative arrangements for your continued treatment. A Medicare card is not needed for any TB service A referral is not always necessary