

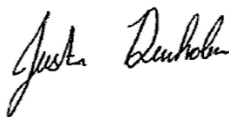
**Clearance for studies and/or placements after a positive test for latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI)**

Tuberculosis clinics and specialists frequently receive referrals in relation to positive tests for latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI). In Victoria, this is most commonly after testing with either an interferon-gamma release assay (IGRA, such as the Quantiferon Gold test) or a skin test (tuberculin skin test, or Mantoux). LTBI testing is valuable, and positive tests indicate that further testing or treatment may be warranted for supporting your long-term health. It is important to recognise that a positive test for LTBI does not mean that you are unwell, and people with LTBI are not at risk of transmitting infection to others.

Commonly, such testing is performed for students preparing for course entry or placements. It is important to arrange whatever testing your course requires early. Referrals to outpatient clinics will be assessed according to medical need, and urgent review to facilitate course documentation is not available. You can support this process by making sure that you have a chest x-ray prior to attending clinic. Asymptomatic students or healthcare workers with a positive test for LTBI and normal chest x-ray should not be prohibited from commencing courses or placements while awaiting review.

General information about LTBI is available on our website at <https://www.thermh.org.au/tb>. If your clinical condition has changed since referral, including any new or worsening symptoms, please return to see the doctor who referred you.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justin Denholm', written in a cursive style.

Professor Justin Denholm  
Victorian Tuberculosis Program