



# Nurse Professionals Home Care, L.L.C.

PHYSICIAN'S STATEMENT

AUTHORIZATION:

\_\_\_\_\_ do hereby authorize  
(Name)

\_\_\_\_\_, to release to Nurse Professionals Home Care, L.L.C., its affiliates, and any of its hospitals  
(Client Physician)

or institutions any information acquired in my recent medical examination which is relevant to my employment.

Signature

Date

### TUBERCULOSIS SCREENING/IMMUNIZATION STATUS (to be completed by physician)

TEST	DATE PLACED	DATE READ	INDURATION	READ BY	RESULT
Step 1 PPD (acceptable only if fully documented)					<input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Positive
Step 2 PPD (accepted Only if fully documented)					<input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Positive
Chest X-ray (if PPD positive)					Attach written results
BCG Inoculation					

Does individual have a latex allergy?  No  Yes (If yes, the reverse side of this form must be completed.)

*I have examined and obtained a current history on the individual named above, and to the best of my knowledge, he/she is in good physical and mental health, is free of any communicable diseases, has no physical limitations and is able to function in his/her professional discipline and specialty on a full-time basis at full capacity without any accommodations.*

Signature of Physician

Date

Printed name of Physician

Date of physical exam

### OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The following tests are typical requirements for employment with Nurse Professionals Home Care, L.L.C. and standard in the healthcare industry. Please attach copies of results.

- Positive titer or immune status for Rubella, Rubeola, Varicella and Mumps
- Hepatitis B vaccine, titer or signed declination form
- Hepatitis C titer
- Tetanus/TD Booster

As a condition of employment as an agency nurse, some healthcare facilities may have health requirements in addition to this list.

## Two Step PPD Policy

The two-step test is not the usual PPD skin test in which you receive an injection of PPD and the test area is observed one time at a specific time frame.

The two-step PPD test is used to detect individuals with past TB infections who now have diminished skin test reactivity. This procedure reduces the likelihood that a boosted reaction is later interpreted as a new injection.

The reason for the two stage PPD test appears to be the "booster phenomenon". It occurs in some people who were infected with TB in the past because the body loses its ability to react to the Tuberculin solution. Thus, when these people are tested many years after the initial infection they may have a negative reaction. However, if they are tested a second time within up to one year of the first test, they may have a positive reaction. This positive reaction is due to a "boosted" ability to react to the Tuberculin solution. To avoid misinterpretation between a boosted response and a new infection, many facilities employ the two step procedure. In this procedure a person is given a baseline PPD test. If the test is (-), a second test is administered 1-3 weeks later (i.e. the second test can be read 7-21 days after the first). If the second test is negative, the person is considered uninfected. If the second test is positive, then the person is considered to have a "boosted" reaction to an infection that occurred in the past.

Beyond that, secondary testing is useful to help offset potential false negative testing results. The sensitivity of the Tuberculin testing in patients presenting with newly diagnosed pulmonary TB can be as low as 80% in immune-compromised or otherwise unhealthy compromised patients. The 20% false negative rate is due to a combination of immune-suppression of delayed hypersensitivity from cytokines as well as factors relating to acute illness and/or poor nutrition. Even once these patients have returned to normal health and nutrition status, such as those in the general population, the sensitivity of Tuberculin testing is still only approximately 95%. This one-in-twenty false negative rate could certainly warrant the use of secondary testing, especially for those working in a healthcare setting.

We have begun to utilize the "4 visit" approach for two step testing (per CDC):

1. Visit 1, Day 1: PPD antigen is applied under the skin
2. Visit 2, Day 3: PPD test is read (within 48-72 hours of placement). If positive, it indicates TB infection and a chest x-ray and further evaluation is necessary.
3. Visit 3, Day 7-21: A second PPD skin test is applied (for those that test one was negative).
4. Visit 4, 48-72 hours after placement: the second test is read. A positive 2<sup>nd</sup> test indicates TB infection in the distant past. CXR and further evaluation will likely be necessary.