

The Mantoux Test (Tuberculin Skin Test)

UHD TB Service Patient information

TB Nurse Specialists: **0300 019 4570** Website: **www.uhd.nhs.uk**

What is a Mantoux Test?

The Mantoux test is used to see if you have been exposed to Tuberculosis (TB). It involves injecting a very small amount of fluid, called Tuberculin, into the outer skin layer of the forearm.

The area on the arm is looked at two to three days later to measure the reaction. Until the reaction is measured, it is important to follow the advice below, otherwise the accuracy of the result could be affected.

- Do not scratch it.
- Do not cover it with a plaster or dressing.
- Do not put anything on the area, such as skin creams or medications, sun lotions, perfume, make-up, shaving preparations or beauty treatments. You can wash and bathe as normal.

If you have a reaction to the test the area of skin at the injection site will become red and raised. The TB nurse will measure the reaction and tell you if any further testing or follow up is required.

The Royal Bournemouth Hospital, Castle Lane East, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 7DW

Author: **Suzanne Barrett** Date: **June 2022** Version: **Three** Review date: **June 2025** Ref: **075/22**