



## Screening for tuberculosis; social and health care students, kindergarten teacher students, students of logopedics

Section 55 of the Infectious Diseases Act requires employers to request, in certain situations and in order to protect their patients or clients, that social or health care students starting practical training at a social services or healthcare unit or those starting practical training to care for pre-school age children undergo a reliable assessment to ensure that the students do not have pulmonary tuberculosis. This assessment is extremely important as a student with pulmonary tuberculosis may pass on the infection to patients or clients being treated, whose immunity is often impaired. The assessment includes an interview and, if necessary, a chest X-ray.

**Please answer the questions below to find out whether a tuberculosis assessment is required.**

**If you answer Yes even once**, you must undergo an assessment to rule out tuberculosis before your start practical training at a social services or healthcare unit or caring for children under school age.

**Contact your FSHS unit. NB.** The assessment is not required if less than 2 years have passed since your previous assessment and you have not been re-exposed to tuberculosis.

**If you answer No in all items**, a tuberculosis assessment is not required.

A list of countries with a very high or high risk of tuberculosis is available here:

<http://www.thl.fi/attachments/Infektiaudit/Maaluettelo.pdf>

**Were you born in a country with a very high incidence of tuberculosis ( $\geq 150/100,000$  annually)?**

Yes  No

**Have you lived at least 12 months in a country with a very high incidence of tuberculosis ( $\geq 150/100,000$  annually)?** If your working duties will involve caring for newborn infants, the assessment is required if you have lived in a country in which the incidence of tuberculosis is  $\geq 50/100,000$ .

Yes  No

**Have you worked in healthcare for at least 3 months in a country with a very high incidence of tuberculosis ( $\geq 150/100,000$  annually)?** If your working duties will involve caring for newborn infants, the assessment is required if you have worked in healthcare for at least 3 months in a country in which the incidence of tuberculosis is  $\geq 50/100,000$ .

Yes  No

**Have you been involved in the care of a patient with tuberculosis?**

Yes  No

**Have you been in close contact with a person with contagious pulmonary tuberculosis?**

Yes  No