



## IACUC Guidelines for Tuberculosis ROHP Requirements

**Associated Policy:** ROHP Requirements for Animal Health

**Revision History:**

**Date:** March 7, 2023

### General Guidelines:

- All personnel working with or around non-human primates (NHPs), or accessing NHP housing areas, must be enrolled in the ROHP surveillance group “ROHP\_PRIMATE”. Tuberculosis (TB)-specific requirements in this group include:
  - ROHP-Tuberculosis training: one-time, online training module
  - Tuberculosis screening: screening must be completed annually
- Tuberculosis screening may be completed by tuberculin skin test or blood test (Quantiferon Gold).
- Screening is due prior to initial approval to work with or around NHPs, and annually thereafter.
- Screening can be completed via HPOEM or another provider. Test results from non-HPOEM clinics must be submitted to BOHD to be entered into their records.

### TB screening results and outcomes:

- 1. Screening is negative for TB:** Individual has cleared the TB screening requirement. Continue to re-screen annually.
- 2. Initial TB Test result is non-negative (Mantoux), or indeterminate/positive (Quantiferon Gold):** Confirmatory testing required, no contact with NHPs while confirmation is pending.
  - HPOEM (or employee, if the initial TB test was completed by another provider) notifies BOHD.
  - BOHD notifies RAR and/or supervisor/PI immediately.
  - BOHD informs the lab/facility staff employee that they must schedule another TB test (type of follow-up test depends on initial type of TB test that was completed) with HPOEM to confirm positive TB:
    - In the case of non-negative Mantoux skin test, confirm test with Quant Gold.
    - In the case of indeterminate Quant Gold blood test, confirm test with second Quant Gold blood test (or T-SPOT, as determined by occupational health physician).
    - In the case of positive result perform an exam.
  - RAR and/or supervisor/PI removes lab/facility staff employee from NHP access pending confirmatory test results.
  - If the follow-up test is negative, personnel may resume contact with NHPs. Rescreen annually.
- 3. Follow-up TB Test result is positive:**
  - Active TB or untreated latent TB is a contraindication for working with or around NHPs.

- HPOEM (or employee, if the initial TB test was completed by another provider) notifies BOHD.
- In the case of confirmed follow-up result, BOHD informs the lab/facility staff employee that they must schedule an exam with HPOEM to confirm active or latent TB.
- Clear/asymptomatic chest exam diagnosis confirms latent TB, HPOEM refers lab/facility staff employee to tuberculosis specialist for treatment.
  - 3-6 months treatment of latent TB managed by a tuberculosis specialist (treatment duration and choice of therapy depends upon factors such as coexisting medical conditions and allergies).
  - 4-6 months four drug treatment with a tuberculosis specialist for active TB.
  - Depending on the source of the infection, treatment costs might not be covered by workers' compensation or BOHD.
- BOHD: notifies RAR and supervisor/PI.
- BOHD: notifies lab/facility staff employee of result.
- Supervisor/PI: removes personnel from NHP access (changes status in eProtocol to 'not working with animals') and notifies BOHD and RAR.

#### **4. Following completion of treatment as prescribed by tuberculosis specialist:**

- Personnel who have completed treatment for latent or active TB may resume contact with NHPs with the following precautions:
  - Employee provides documentation for treatment to BOHD.
  - Enrollment in the respiratory protection program is required.
  - A fit-tested N95 or equivalent must be worn when in contact with NHPs and when in spaces where NHPs may later enter.
  - A symptom questionnaire must be completed every 6 months to screen for potential re-activation of TB. Personnel will be referred by HPOEM for further evaluation with a tuberculosis specialist as needed based on questionnaire responses.
  - If reactivation is suspected or confirmed, no contact with NHPs is allowed until reactivation has either been ruled out or an additional approved course of treatment has been completed. Treatment costs might not be covered by workers' compensation or BOHD.

#### **Exemptions:**

- Any requests for exemptions to these Guidelines will be reviewed by the Attending Veterinarian and IACUC Leadership and assessed on a case-by-case basis, taking into account risks posed to NHPs in the specific situation and any steps proposed to mitigate those risks.

#### **Definitions:**

- ROHP: Research Occupational Health Program
- BOHD: Biosafety and Occupational Health Department
- HPOEM: HealthPartners Occupational and Environmental Medicine is the provider of occupational health services for University employees in the Twin Cities
- IACUC Leadership: Members of the IACUC Leadership consist of the Chair, Attending Veterinarian, Director, and Associate Vice President for Research