



Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Division of Disease Control

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Health Update

Tuberculosis PPD Solution Shortage

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Background

On April 12th 2013 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced a nationwide shortage of Tubersol[®], one of two Purified Protein Derivative (PPD) tuberculin used in the Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) to diagnose tuberculosis (TB) infection. A shortage of Aplisol[®], the second brand of PPD solution, was announced shortly after. On April 23, 2013, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) issued a Health Advisory with recommendations for restricting TB testing.

Update

The shortage of PPD solution has now ended. The shortage of PPD solution Aplisol[®] was resolved May 2014, and the PPD solution Tubersol[®] was resolved in July 2014.

Sanofi Pasteur reports that TUBERSOL[®] (Tuberculin Purified Protein Derivative [Mantoux]) supply has improved and was resolved in July 2014. Existing Sanofi Pasteur customers can purchase directly from Sanofi Pasteur by visiting VaccineShoppe.com[®] or by calling 1-800-VACCINE (1-800-822-2463). In addition, limited quantities of TUBERSOL Diagnostic Antigen are available through the wholesaler/distributor channel. Customers who normally order through this channel should work with their preferred wholesaler/distributor to better understand TUBERSOL Diagnostic Antigen quantities that may be available to them. If you are a new customer or have inquiries regarding the availability of Tubersol Diagnostic Antigen, you should contact Sanofi Pasteur at 1-800-VACCINE (1-800-822-2463), or your wholesaler/distributor.

JHP Pharmaceuticals, LLC, the manufacturer for APLISOL[®], the other FDA licensed Tuberculin Purified Protein Derivative product, also can be contacted directly at 1-877-547-4547 to order product.

Recommendations

1. The Philadelphia Health Department's prior recommendations for restricting TB testing are now rescinded. (Original Health Advisory, dated April 23, 2013; *Nationwide Shortage of Tuberculin Skin Test Antigens: PDPH Recommendations for Patient Care and Public Health Practice*. Available online at hip.phila.gov)
2. Resume TB targeted testing in keeping with standard protocols. For specific guidance, refer to MMWR June 9, 2000; 49 (RR-6):1-51.

Please call PDPH, TB Control Program at 215-685-6873 if you have questions or need additional information regarding this health alert or need information on targeted testing for persons at risk for developing tuberculosis disease.

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Philadelphia Department of Public Health

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