



Mandatory Tuberculosis Screening for High-Risk International Students

Proposed by Robert Winfield, MD, Director of University Health Service and approved by the Executive Officers of the University of Michigan on June 14, 2004.

1. The University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Dearborn and Flint campuses shall implement mandatory TB screening for international students arriving from high prevalence countries as defined by the World Health Organization (WHO), beginning in the fall term 2006.
2. Appropriate treatment will be recommended for students with inactive TB infection but will not be enforced. Treatment for active TB will be enforced by the local health departments.
3. The University Health Service will be responsible for managing this program on the Ann Arbor campus, with the assistance of the International Center and the Office of the Registrar. Dearborn and Flint campuses will be responsible for managing their respective programs.
4. Compliance with the policy will be enforced with a hold on students' second term registration, released after completing mandatory TB screening, in cooperation with the Office of Registrar.
5. Cost for screening will be financed through university funds with no direct fees to students. Cost for medications will not be covered by university funds but may be covered by student insurance with co-pays and/or local health departments.
6. Screening of others (e.g. international scholars, family members) will be encouraged but not enforced.
7. The University of Michigan International Travel Oversight Committee will consider an advisory to travelers to WHO-designated high prevalence countries to consider and discuss their TB travel risk with their health provider and consider optional recommended pre-travel and post-travel TB skin testing.

Rationale: Nationally and in Michigan, public health authorities are working to eliminate tuberculosis (TB). In 1989 the CDC and the Advisory Council on Elimination of Tuberculosis adopted a national goal to eliminate TB (defined as less than one case per million population per year. In November 2000, the American College Health Association adopted guidelines recommending screening of persons arriving from high-risk countries. In March 2003, the Michigan Advisory Committee for the Elimination of Tuberculosis (MI-ACET) recommended screening international students and other persons arriving from countries with a high burden of TB disease. At UM, voluntary screening has not adequately reached at-risk individuals. For this reason, mandatory TB screening will be implemented.

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