



Rod Roberts, Director

Effective Date of TB Rules Delayed Until March 26th

DES MOINES, IA (January 11, 2013) – The effective date for the Department of Inspections and Appeals' (DIA) new Tuberculosis Screening rules [481 IAC 59] has been delayed for a period of 70 days. During its January 8th meeting, the Legislature's Administrative Rules Review Committee (ARRC) voted to delay implementation of the TB screening rules until March 26th. The rules initially had an effective date of January 16th.

The delay, which was uncontested by the Department, will permit DIA staff to work with health care providers, the Department of Public Health, and other stakeholders to clarify the situations and circumstances under which volunteers must be tested or screened for tuberculosis. It is the Department's intent that those who volunteer on a consistent, regular basis should be screened and tested for TB pursuant to Chapter 59.

The rules outline requirements and procedures to conduct TB screenings for health care workers, as well as residents of health care facilities. Additionally, the chapter details the screening process to be used, the risk classifications, and who may conduct TB screenings. The new chapter was substantially written by the Public Health Department and is designed to bring Iowa into compliance with TB screening recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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