Galion Board of Health:

The Galion City Health Department has been administering Tuberculin skin tests (TST) for many years. However, in 2019 the CDC changed its guidance for TSTs which reads as follows:

Tuberculosis Screening, Testing, and Treatment of U.S. Health Care Personnel: Recommendations from the National Tuberculosis Controllers Association and CDC, 2019

*Historically, U.S. health care personnel were at increased risk for latent TB infection (LTBI) and TB disease from occupational exposures, but recent data suggest that this is no longer the case*. CDC and the National Tuberculosis Controllers Association have updated the 2005 CDC recommendations for testing health care personnel. The update includes 1) TB risk assessment, symptom screening, and TB testing upon hire with a TB blood test (e.g.,interferon-gamma release assay) or tuberculin skin test for those without documented prior TB or LTBI; 2) **no annual TB testing for most health care personnel without a known exposure or ongoing transmission**; 3) for health care personnel with LTBI treatment is strongly encouraged; 4) annual symptom screening for health care personnel with untreated LTBI; and 5) annual TB education for all health care personnel. These recommendations apply to health care personnel and volunteers in all health care settings. However, state and local TB screening and testing regulations may have different requirements.

Full article and more information can be found here: [Updated Recommendations for TB Screening, Testing, and Treatment of U.S. Health Care Personnel | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/newsroom/2019/recommendations-for-tb-screening.html)

Please see the following information on the number of TSTs we administer. Please note, every August we provide a large TB clinic for Ohio Heartland Head Start, thus the increase in number of TSTs administered. These numbers are not considered in the average doses per month.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **TSTs Administered** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** |
| **January** | **11** | **9** | **7** |
| **February** | **7** | **3** | **1** |
| **March** | **5** | **4** | **1** |
| **April** | **6** | **3** | **2** |
| **May** | **7** | **5** | **5** |
| **June** | **7** | **5** | **6** |
| **July** | **16** | **9** | **7** |
| **August** | **13** | **28** | **23** |
| **September** | **5** | **7** | **4** |
| **October** | **9** | **5** | **3** |
| **November** | **3** | **5** | **0** |
| **December** | **2** | **1** | **1** |
| **Yearly Total** | **91** | **84** | **60** |
| **Average doses per month** | **7** | **5** | **3** |

It is important to consider the cost to maintain and administer this test. This includes the cost of supplies, staff time and Tubersol.

**Cost of supplies and maintenance ~$0.50-1.00**

**Staff time: Nurse time: ~15 minutes**

**Tubersol as of 3/3/2022: $87.26**

It is important to consider that Tubersol is only viable for 30 days past time of puncture. Therefore it is important to consider increasing the price of each test to cover the cost keeping Tubersol despite wasting tests.

If prices are set based on the average number administered per month plus the cost for the staff time and supplies:

**$87.26 / 3 = $29.09**

**Majority of TSTs are administered by the DON.**

**Total DON cost annually: 106,319.60/52/40/4 = $12.78**

**DON cost for 15 min: $12.78**

**Billing cost = ? (most pay cash)**

**29.09 + 12.78 = 41.87 + $1 for supplies cost**

**Grand total cost : $42.87**