

Modernization & Provincial Standardization: Pathway to Long-Term Care (LTC) - Elimination of Diagnostic Testing Requirements in LTC Application

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TO: All Health Regions and Health System Leaders for Distribution

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The Shared Health Home & Community Care Planning Team is coordinating and leading the Modernization and Provincial Standardization: Pathway to Long-Term Care (LTC), a provincial Quality Improvement initiative. This project aims to improve flow from hospital to community, reduce Alternate Level of Care (ALC) days (ALC Reason Code 11 - In Panel Process), reduce unnecessary diagnostic tests that are not medically required, improve care planning for individuals requiring LTC and improve the experience of individuals and families.

Based on a thorough review of best practice, jurisdictional reviews across Canada, broad stakeholder consultation that included the Provincial Medical Officers of Health as well as aligning with [Choosing Wisely Canada](#), we will begin implementation of this project with the following initial change: **Effective immediately, diagnostic testing including the chest x-ray, EKG, bloodwork and urinalysis will no longer be required as part of the Long-Term Care Application/Assessment process and should only be ordered based on an individual's clinical indications.**

Until a revised provincial Shared Health Medical Assessment Form has been implemented, please continue to complete Part 2 - Medical Data – within the [Manitoba Health - Application/Assessment for Long Term Care Placement](#) with the exception of the Investigate Findings Section which is no longer required.

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS	RESULTS	DATE	PLACE RESULTS AVAILABLE
1) CHEST X-RAY <small>Must be done within 1 year prior to placement</small>			
2) Hgb			
3) FBS			
4) BUN			
5) ELECTROLYTES			
6) URINALYSIS			
7) ECG			
8)			

NO LONGER REQUIRED TO BE COMPLETED

In keeping with the Canadian Tuberculosis Standards, a chest x-ray should only be completed when clinically indicated. To assist health care providers to identify when a chest x-ray is necessary to

screen for Tuberculosis, please refer to the following:

<https://healthproviders.sharedhealthmb.ca/files/think-tb-hcp.pdf>

We appreciate your support as we enhance individual outcomes and operational efficiency through provincial standardization and optimization. If there are any questions regarding this change, please contact Joe Puchniak, Provincial Clinical Service Lead, Home, Community & Palliative Care at jpuchniak@sharedhealthmb.ca.

Resources

- [Clinical Practice Change Communication](#)
- [Think TB: For Healthcare Providers](#)

Reference

[Canadian Tuberculosis Standards 8th ed. \(2022\)](#) (CTS) are:

- Chapter 14-Section 7.1 –screening for tuberculosis disease in LTCFs & recommendations.
- Chapter 4-Section 3.7.3 –screening for latent tuberculosis infection in LTCFs (not recommended)