

Don't we test teachers and staff for tuberculosis (TB) yearly?

NO

ARM 37.114.1010 requiring annual TB testing of school employees was repealed in March of 2017.



Low-Risk



False Positives



Relevant Testing

- ✓ Montana is a low-incidence state for active tuberculosis.
- ✓ Over the last decade, an average about 3-6 cases were reported annually.
- ✓ CDC guidelines discourage TB testing of low-risk persons and groups.

- ✓ When the prevalence of TB is low, annual testing results in a high number of false positive tests.
- ✓ False positives cause unnecessary expenses and treatment with serious TB medication.

- ✓ CDC and the Montana Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS) recommend providers and local public health jurisdictions only test those who are at risk or need to be tested for medical purposes.