



WHAT DOES A *Negative TB Skin Test* MEAN?

Most of the time, a negative TB skin test means you do not have TB infection or TB disease.

If you have TB symptoms, you may need a chest x-ray and other tests—even if you have a negative TB skin test. TB symptoms are:

- lots of coughing
- coughing up blood
- sweating at night
- feeling tired
- not wanting to eat, and
- losing weight.

When a person gets TB infection or TB disease, it takes 2-10 weeks for it to show up on a TB skin test. This is why people sometimes need to repeat the test.

Some people with HIV, infections, and on certain medicines may have a negative TB skin test even though they are not free of TB.

You may qualify for Medi-Cal benefits. People with TB infection or TB disease may also qualify for TB-Cal. To find out about your eligibility and to request an information packet and application, please call 1-858-514-6885. Collect calls are accepted.