

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
**BUREAU OF HUMAN SERVICES LICENSING**  
**Family Living Homes**  
(55 Pa.Code Chapter 6500)

**Q/A - Regulatory Clarifications – September 2015**

*The clarifications and interpretations below will remain on the Department's web site until the information is included in the next updated Regulatory Compliance Guide (RCG).*

**Regulation: § 6500.121(b), (c)(6) – Individual Physical Examination**

*§ 6500.121 -*

*(b) The physical examination shall be completed, signed and dated by a licensed physician, certified nurse practitioner or licensed physician's assistant.*

*(c) The physical examination shall include:*

*(6) Tuberculin skin testing by Mantoux method with negative results every 2 years for individuals 1 year of age or older; or, if a tuberculin skin test is positive, an initial chest x-ray with results noted.*

**Question:** Are medical assistants permitted to read an individual's TB skin test?

**ANSWER:** According to the CDC, a TB skin test should be read by a "health-care worker trained to read tuberculin skin testing (TST) results." Therefore, a medical assistant who has been trained to read TST results is considered qualified and is permitted to do so under the regulations.

**Regulation: § 6500.121(b), (c)(9) - Individual Physical Examination**

*§ 6500.121 -*

*(b) The physical examination shall be completed, signed and dated by a licensed physician, certified nurse practitioner or licensed physician's assistant.*

*(c) The physical examination shall include:*

*(9) A prostate examination for men 40 years of age or older.*

**Question:** Is a home compliant with the regulation requiring prostate examinations for men 40 years of age or older if the physician indicates in writing the prostate examination is not indicated and that a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) blood test is sufficient?

**ANSWER:** Yes. If an individual's physician has attested in writing that a prostate exam is not needed and that a PSA blood test is sufficient, then BHSL will find the home compliant with the regulation.