Welcome
Before or shortly after you arrive in Queensland, the Australian Government may ask you to go to a
Tuberculosis Control Unit in Brisbane, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville or Cairns for tuberculosis
health screening. This service is free of charge.

What is TB?
Tuberculosis (TB) is a bacterial infection that can affect almost any part of the body. TB is most common in
the lungs, a form called pulmonary tuberculosis.

TB is well-controlled in Queensland. However, TB still exists in all countries, so new cases do occur. TB can
be a serious disease if it is not diagnosed and treated properly. It can be cured by medications if taken as
prescribed by your doctor.

For more information please see fact sheets at www.health.qld.gov.au/chrisp/tuberculosis/factsheets.asp

What to expect
Your first visit may include the following:

- Tuberculin skin test (Mantoux test) - This test determines whether you have been exposed to the
tuberculosis germ. The test is safe and is given with a new, disposable needle into the top layer of
skin on the left forearm. You may have some redness or itching after the test, but you should avoid
scratching the site. If this test is done, you need to return to this clinic in two or three days for the test
to be checked.
- Chest x-ray - This is a quick, simple and painless test. It allows the doctor to check the lungs for
disease including tuberculosis. If you are pregnant, please tell the radiographer before having a
chest x-ray to determine if the test is necessary at this time.
- Blood tests to determine the presence of some controllable diseases, such as Hepatitis B. These are
done on a small sample of blood taken from the arm.
- Immunisation - If you have previously been immunised, please bring your vaccination records with
you. If you do not have records or your immunisations are incomplete, appropriate follow-up will be
arranged.
- Other checks as appropriate.

Your second visit (two or three days later):
- Tuberculin skin test reading - The skin test is checked and recorded. Vaccination may be offered if
you need it. Depending on the results of your skin test, chest x-ray, and/or blood tests, you may
need to see a doctor at your closest Tuberculosis Control Unit. An appointment will be made for you
if needed.

Further information

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<th>Location</th>
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| Metro South Clinical TB Service
Princess Alexandra Hospital *(Brisbane)* | 3176 4166  | Cairns TB Control Unit
Cairns Base Hospital         | 4226 6240  |
| Rockhampton TB Control Unit
Rockhampton Base Hospital   | 4920 6211  | Townsville TB Control Unit
Townsville General Hospital | 4433 2860  |
| Toowoomba TB Control Unit
Toowoomba Hospital          | 4616 6446  |                         |            |