

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

**Q/A - Regulatory Clarifications – March 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)(10) – 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.*

*§ 6500.121(c)(10) - The physical examination shall include:*

*(10) Specific precautions that must be taken if the individual has a communicable disease, to prevent spread of the disease to other individuals.*

**Question:** Is it permissible to leave blanks on an individual's physical examination form?

**ANSWER:** It is not acceptable to leave blanks on an individual's physical examination form. Each medical information item listed on the physical examination form is information that is pertinent to providing the care and services necessary for each individual. If the medical information item is indeed "not applicable (NA)" or there is "none," then the medical professional filling out the form must denote that on the form. The home shall ensure medical professionals do not leave any blanks when completing individual physical examination forms.

This Q/A hereby replaces the interpretation in ODP's 07/12/2011 Chapter 6500 LII for the regulation found at § 6500.121(c)(10).

The application of this interpretation will begin 6 months from the date of this clarification – October 1, 2015.

**Regulation: § 6500.125(c)(2) – Family Physical Examination**

*§ 6500.125(c) - The physical examination shall include:*

*(2) Tuberculin skin testing by Mantoux method with negative results every 2 years for family members 1 year of age or older; or, if a tuberculin skin test is positive, an initial chest X-ray with results noted. Tuberculin skin testing may be completed and certified in writing by a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse instead of a licensed physician.*

**Question:** How often does a family member in a family living home need to have a TB test administered?

**ANSWER:** A family member shall have one TB test conducted within 12 months prior to an individual living in the home. If a break in service occurs and the family living member did not have an exam within the past 12 months prior to a new individual living in the home or a previous individual returning to the home, then a new exam and TB test is needed. If an individual continually lives in the home without a break in service, no additional testing is required.