

# Health clearance

## Instructions for health care providers

A health clearance is required of all students attending placement on a healthcare programme within Stockholm County Council, or services that have an agreement with Stockholm County Council. The purpose of the health clearance is to help prevent the spread of infectious diseases in healthcare work.

**The attached form (health clearance) should be completed and signed by a licensed physician prior to the student's departure for Sweden.**

### Filling out a health clearance

Following medical conditions should be checked for before issuing a health clearance:

#### ***MRSA***

MRSA test is recommended prior to departure for Sweden, as positive test result may lead to restrictions for health care placements with particularly vulnerable patients. An additional MRSA test will be done by Student Wellbeing Centre upon arrival, for students that meet the criteria.

#### ***Skin conditions***

Wounds, eczema, and damaged skin are risk factors for spread of infections and ought to be treated before departure to Sweden.

#### ***Tuberculosis (TB)***

All students must undergo TB risk assessment and symptom screen. TB screening should occur within 6 months prior to their departure to Sweden.

#### Risk assessment

A recent tuberculin skin test, TST (PPD) or IGRA (QuantiFERON) test is required if the student:

- During the past 5 years lived in a country outside of Western Europe/North America /Australia for more than 3 months.
- Been exposed to tuberculosis from a family member or other close contact.

A copy of the test result must be attached to the health clearance and presented at Student Wellbeing Centre upon arrival to Sweden.

**In case of positive TST, IGRA or prior diagnosis or treatment for TB/LTBI, a follow-up chest x-ray is required** to confirm or dismiss evidence of active pulmonary tuberculosis. A written x-ray report (in English) must be attached to the health clearance and presented at Student Wellbeing Centre upon arrival to Sweden.

#### Symptom screen

If presenting with symptoms of TB (long-lasting cough, fever, night sweats, unintentional weight loss or fatigue), a referral to an infection clinic for diagnosis and treatment is required before issuing a health clearance.

If diagnosed with TB, the student must have completed treatment before allowed placement on a healthcare programme, and the student must bring a separate report from the treating physician with necessary medical information. **Please ask the student to contact Student Wellbeing Centre in advance if the above applies.**

No restrictions apply to students diagnosed with latent tuberculosis (LTBI).

#### **Immunization coverage**

It is highly recommended, but not mandatory, for students to be vaccinated (if not immune) against:

- Hepatitis B
- Varicella (chickenpox)
- Measles
- Diphtheria

Vaccination against Covid-19 is also highly recommended. Please note that there may apply restrictions for certain placements if not vaccinated against Covid-19.

For contact information please visit our website: <https://education.ki.se/welcome-to-student-wellbeing-centre>

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