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Washington, D.C.

Toronto

Vancouver

Dear Dr. _____,

Your patient has been accepted into a full time volunteer program at Covenant House serving homeless and runaway youth under the age of 21. The following medical form needs to be completed as proof of medical clearance before your patient can begin their full-time volunteer service.

Please be sure to include the results of the following two lab tests, which are mandatory:

U/A (urinalysis/drug screen)

*PPD/Mantoux –Tuberculosis test

Chest X-ray – The Mantoux/PPD test is a simple screening test for tuberculosis. If this test is negative no further testing is necessary. If it is positive, a chest X-ray must be done to determine if someone does or does not have tuberculosis.

Typically, homeless youth have limited access to health care and/or poor histories of health care. Therefore, we strongly recommend the following tests and vaccinations as well:

CBC, Diff (complete blood count with differential test for white blood cells)

Rubella – A rubella test is done on the blood to determine if someone is immune or not immune to the rubella (German Measles) virus. If someone is immune, we document it and no further testing is required. Three months after they have been vaccinated, they require a repeat rubella test to determine if they are immune. (Receiving a vaccination for rubella does not ensure that someone is immune: only a rubella test can determine that.)

Varicella – A varicella titer is done to determine immunity against chicken pox. Since infection with chicken pox usually provides adequate immunity, documentation of the disease by a physician is sufficient proof of immunity. However, if a person is uncertain of a previous history of chicken pox, a blood test would be helpful in determining his/her immune status.

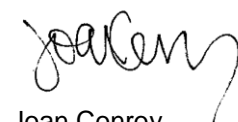
Hepatitis A - It is recommended that volunteers receive the Hepatitis B vaccination series.

Hepatitis B – It is recommended that volunteers receive the Hepatitis B vaccination series. If your patient is planning to service in our health services department at Covenant House, a hepatitis screen is required. A negative screen, signifying a lack of Hepatitis B Immunity, warrants initiation of the Hepatitis B vaccination series.

*Required by the New York State Department of Health for all child-care workers.

Please do not hesitate to call me at 212.727.4081 if you have any questions.

Thank you,



Joan Conroy
Director, Faith Community