



Title V Newsletter

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“Creating a Pathway to Success in High-Demand Programs”

Nursing Students Practice Administering TB Tests

The purpose of a tuberculin (TB) skin test is to see if you have been exposed to tuberculosis. The test is done by putting a small amount of the TB protein under the top layer of skin on your inner forearm. The test is done to see if you have ever been exposed to the TB bacteria by developing a firm red bump at the site within 2 days.



On February 18, 2016 a group of LPN students practiced administering the tuberculosis skin test also known as the PPD (Purified Protein Derivative) test on hot dogs as part of their SimLab. The reason the students are using a hot dog is because it's the closest product that simulates the forearm for them to practice on. This practice helps the students perform the test correctly because if the test is done incorrectly, it can give a false positive result.



If you have a positive result, remember it does not mean you have TB it only means you have been exposed to it at some time. Further testing is needed and most often it is a chest X-ray. It is a good test for finding a TB infection when no symptoms are present. Be sure to talk to your health care providers regarding the need for this test, its risks, or how it will be done.

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