

**Immunization Registry and TB Test Results
Fact Sheet**

This bill would allow the recording of TB Screening results in Immunization Registries. This information is currently available on the California Immunization Record (yellow card). Changing the availability of these results would greatly increase efficiency for medical care providers and schools, as well as provide more convenience to parents.

Under current California law, both TB skin testing and immunization information are considered “medical information” subject to California’s Confidentiality of Medical Information Act. Because of this, written authorization must be given by the patient/parent to allow a provider to share this information and must have a specified date as to when this authorization to share this information expires.

The California Registry Law partially amended this, allowing the sharing of a patient’s immunization information through the Registry without written consent and without an expiration date. Instead, only parental disclosure is required (i.e. parents/patients have the ability to opt-out of sharing their information through the Registry). However, there is currently no authority granted in the California Registry Law that allows for collection and sharing of TB screening results in the Registry. This bill aims to change that.

TB screening results are currently collected by physicians and provided to patients/parents on the same documents (yellow card) as immunization information. Not being able to collect this information in the Registry is a time-consuming endeavor for providers and an inconvenience for parents. The medical provider either has to re-enter (by hand) the TB screening results on the yellow card each time they print out a new yellow card from the Registry, or have the parents keep the old yellow cards as well, so that they have a record of the TB screening results. This information will also be helpful to schools to expedite the registration of students. TB screening results could be reviewed at the same time school personnel are reviewing immunization information in the Registry.

This bill represents a simple but important fix in the current system. Health care providers and schools throughout California who use the Registry have consistently requested that the TB screening results be collected in the Registry and printed on the yellow card for ease of maintaining this information and providing it to patients/ parents.

It is anticipated that the following organizations will support this legislation:

- California TB Controller Association
- California Nurses Association
- California Immunizations Coalition
- California CD Controller Association