

What is immigration medical surveillance?

Immigration medical surveillance is a program that requires newcomers at risk of developing TB to undergo a medical exam upon their arrival to Canada. This exam ensures that you don't have active TB disease.

Why am I required to have medical surveillance follow-up?

When you applied to enter Canada, stay longer in Canada, or become a permanent resident, you were required to have an Immigration Medical Examination (IME). Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) looked at the results of the IME and decided you need further medical follow-up while you are in Canada.

What is in Peel Public Health's medical surveillance package?

This package includes all the documents you need to complete your medical surveillance while living in Peel region. It contains:

- a letter explaining the steps to this process
- a letter for your doctor that explains the requirements of the medical assessment & a *Physician Report- Medical Surveillance for TB*
- frequently asked questions regarding Immigration Medical Surveillance for Tuberculosis (TB)
- information about tuberculosis (TB)

How do I complete medical surveillance?

- Start the medical surveillance procedure after you arrive in Canada. You cannot start medical surveillance until you are in Canada.
- Make an appointment with your doctor for the medical exam. The medical exam must be done by a doctor in Canada.
- Bring the 'Dear Doctor' letter and the *Physician Report- Medical Surveillance for TB* to your appointment for the doctor to complete. You will have a chest x-ray and other tests if necessary.
- Fax or mail the *Physician Report- Medical Surveillance for TB* to Peel Public Health
- Keep a copy of the *Physician Report- Medical Surveillance for TB* as proof that you have completed Medical Surveillance.

How long does medical surveillance take?

The average time for medical surveillance is 6 months to one year. Your doctor will examine you to make sure you **do not** have active TB disease. **The signs and symptoms of active TB are: having a fever, cough, night sweats, coughing up blood and/or feeling very tired. If you have these symptoms, see your doctor right away.**

How can I find a doctor?

Call Health Care Connect at 1-800-445-1822 or visit www.ontario.ca/healthcareconnect

Is there a cost for medical surveillance?

If you are eligible for the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP), or Interim Federal Health Coverage, the cost of medical surveillance is covered.

To find out if you are eligible for OHIP, call the Ontario Ministry of Health INFOLINE 1-800-664-8988 to or visit the website: www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/ohip/

Will medical surveillance affect my immigration process?

Medical surveillance is a requirement by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC). CIC needs proof that you have met the requirements before this condition is removed from your file. If you do not complete medical surveillance, it may delay your application(s) for work extension, student/visitor permit and Canadian citizenship. Being diagnosed with active TB disease during medical surveillance does not affect your immigration status in Canada.

Can I travel if I have not completed my medical surveillance?

Yes, you can travel but if you **have not** completed medical surveillance before leaving the country you may be questioned at the border or airport when you return to Canada.

If you have symptoms of active TB disease like fever, cough or night sweats you should see your doctor before travelling.

Will I need to repeat medical surveillance again?

Whenever you renew your temporary residency or change your immigration status you must undergo another Immigration Medical Exam and you may be asked to repeat medical surveillance by CIC.

Contact CIC directly if you have any of the following questions related to your medical surveillance file:

- Why have I been placed on medical surveillance again?
- What do I do if I am travelling outside of Ontario?
- What do I do if there is inaccurate or missing information on my forms?

Citizenship and Immigration Canada
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219 Laurier Ave. W., 3rd Floor
Ottawa, ON K1A 1L1
Fax to 1-613-952-3891

For more information about TB visit www.peel-stoptb.ca.

For information about immigration visit www.cic.gc.ca or call 1-888-242-2100.