

- In a person who has received BCG as a vaccine after infancy (1 year of age) or has received more than one BCG vaccination, IGRA is preferred.
- In those who have historically poor rates of return for TST readings; IGRA may be preferred.
- The TST is recommended whenever it is planned to repeat the test later to assess risk of new infection (i.e. conversions), such as repeat testing in a contact investigation or serial testing of health care or other populations (e.g. corrections staff or prison inmates) with potential for ongoing exposure. In this scenario, a two-step TST is performed (see **Section 4, TB Screening**).

Tuberculin Skin Test (TST)

The most commonly used tool for diagnosing LTBI is the TST. Testing for LTBI is indicated when there is a risk of an individual developing active TB disease, particularly for the following individuals:

1. Recent exposure to TB (highest risk is within 2 years of exposure)
2. Medical conditions or weakened immunity (i.e. HIV, cancer, etc.)
See **Table 2.3, Section 2**
3. Radiological evidence of an old healed inactive TB lesion but no prior treatment given

TST technique is described in **Section 4, TB Screening**.

Chest Radiography

Although chest radiography is not used for diagnosing LTBI, if it has been done previously for other clinical purposes it can provide clues to previous TB infection.

If a patient has a TST reaction size >5mm, the following signs on the CXR are indicative of previous TB infection (i.e. LTBI):

- Granulomas that are or are not calcified hilar nodes
- Costophrenic angle blunting

See CXR examples in the following figures.

Figure 6.1: Calcified Granulomas Indicated by Arrows (Image from Medscape)

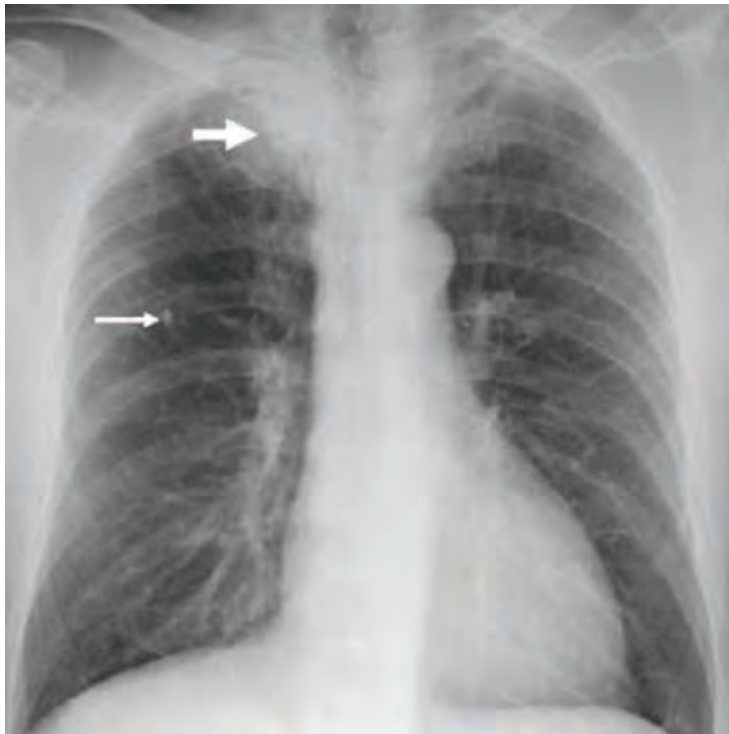
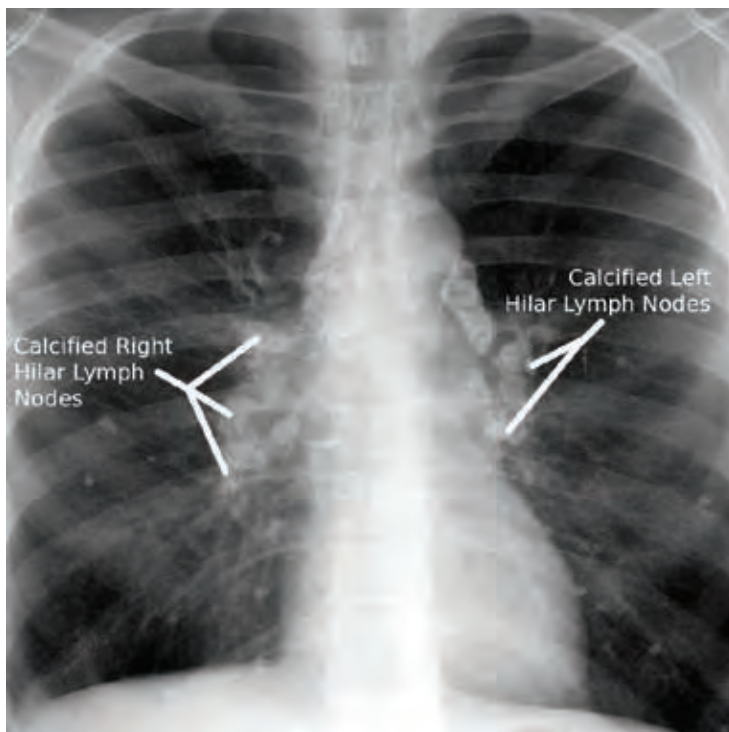
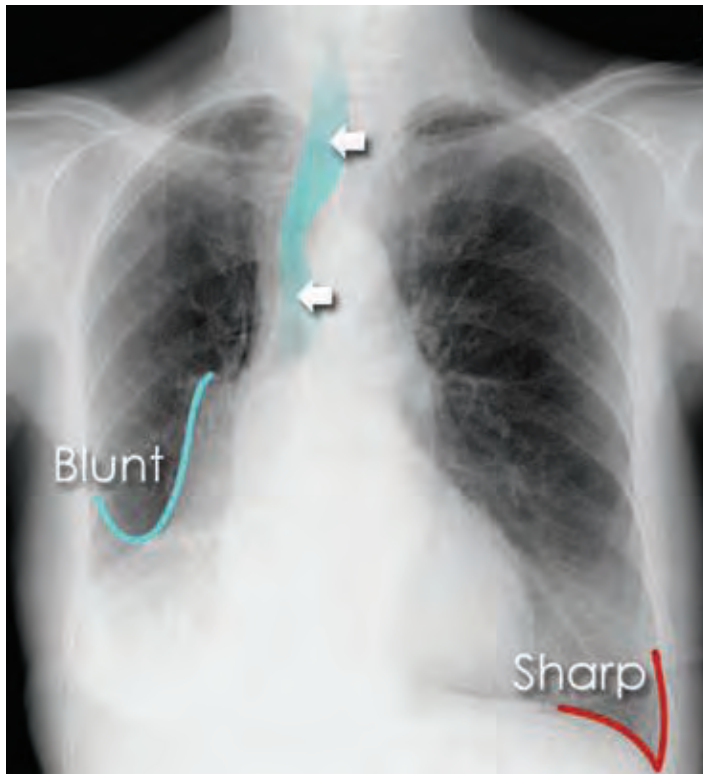


Figure 6.2: Calcified Hilar Nodes Indicated by Lines



<http://www.stanford.edu/dept/radiology/radiologysite/site51.html>)

Figure 6.3: Right Costophrenic Angle



BLUNTING (image from: http://radiologymasterclass.co.uk/tutorials/chest/chest_pathology/chest_pathology_page6.html)