

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 May 2007

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(29) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Crossin (L&CA 41) asked:

Is a TB blood test actually one of the tests for any of those categories of work or for any of those countries where TB might be severe? Would that include having what is known as the Quantiferon gold blood test?

Answer:

All Permanent Residency applicants are screened for TB. Temporary visa applicants may also be screened, based on length of stay, country of origin and intended activities in Australia.

DIAC's tuberculosis screening regime for visa applicants involves a chest x-ray. If an abnormality is detected on the x-ray a sputum culture test is requested.

DIAC does not use Quantiferon tests.