

Two-Step TST Testing

Two-step testing is a strategy used to reduce the likelihood that a boosted reaction will be misinterpreted as a recent infection (Figure 3.6). Two-step testing should be used for the initial skin testing of persons who will be retested periodically, such as health-care workers.

Two-step testing is a strategy used to reduce the likelihood that a boosted reaction will be misinterpreted as a recent infection.

If the reaction to the first test is classified as negative, a second test should be repeated 1 to 3 weeks later. A positive reaction to the second test probably represents a boosted reaction. On the basis of this second test result, the person should be classified as previously infected. This would **not** be considered a skin test conversion or a new TB infection; however, the patient may still be a candidate for LTBI treatment. If the second test result is also negative, the person should be classified as having a negative baseline TST result.

Figure 3.6
Two-Step TST Testing

