Q: What vaccines (that are given to LTC residents) are eligible for reimbursement under Medicare? Does Medicare cover TB testing?

A: What Medicare covers:

- **Influenza Immunizations** - Medicare began covering annual influenza immunizations in 1993 for all Medicare beneficiaries. Medicare covers both the costs of the vaccine and its administration by recognized providers. There is no coinsurance or co-payment applied to this benefit, and a beneficiary does not have to meet his or her deductible to receive this benefit.

- **Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccinations** - Medicare began covering pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccinations in 1981. Medicare provides coverage for 1 pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine for all beneficiaries. One vaccine at age 65 generally provides coverage for a lifetime, but for some high risk persons, a booster vaccine is needed. Medicare will also cover a booster vaccine for high risk persons if 5 years have passed since the last vaccination. Medicare covers both the costs of the vaccine and its administration by recognized providers. There is no coinsurance or co-payment applied to this benefit, and a beneficiary does not have to meet his or her deductible to receive this benefit.

- **Hepatitis B Vaccinations** - Medicare began covering hepatitis B vaccinations in 1984. Persons at high or intermediate risk, such as people with renal disease or hemophilia, homosexual men, and clients of institutions for the mentally handicapped are among those who are eligible to receive this benefit. Medicare covers both the costs of the vaccine and its administration by recognized providers. The coinsurance or co-payment applies after the yearly deductible has been met.

Medicare does **not** cover TB testing, which Mantoux falls under. Here are the various preventive and screening services covered by Med B... [http://www.medicare.gov/coverage/preventive-and-screening-services.html](http://www.medicare.gov/coverage/preventive-and-screening-services.html).