



## APHA Briefing Note 11/16

### Clarification of the protocol for measuring skin fold thickness and reactions in the TB skin test

#### Purpose

1. To inform Official Veterinarians of a recent clarification of the protocol for measuring skin fold thickness on day 1 and any reactions/lumps found on day 2 of a TB skin test.

#### Background

2. A two-handed method of measuring is required. On the first day of the test, a skin fold is raised between the finger and thumb of one hand at the clipped test site, and the thickness of the fold is measured with callipers using your other hand.
3. If a swelling is present on the second day, the skin fold is raised between a finger and thumb, using one hand, so any swelling is at the top of the skin fold. Measure the swelling at the widest point with the callipers, using your other hand, in the same place as on the first day.

#### Further Information

- The updated instructions can be found at [http://ahvla.defra.gov.uk/External\\_OV\\_Instructions/TB\\_Instructions/Updates/index.htm](http://ahvla.defra.gov.uk/External_OV_Instructions/TB_Instructions/Updates/index.htm)