

Guidance on Release from Hospital Tuberculosis Isolation^a

Diagnostics:	Clinical Impression:	Under Airborne Isolation (AII) and discharging to:	Patient must meet all criteria:
Sputum AFB Smear Positive AND NAAT Positive	Active TB Disease	Home— No high risk individuals or individuals without prior exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow-up plan has been made with local TB program and DOT has been arranged^b Started on standard TB treatment All household members, who are not immunocompromised, have been previously exposed to the person with TB Patient is willing to not travel outside the home until negative sputum smear results are received No infants or children younger than 5 years of age or persons with immunocompromising conditions are present in the household who have not been evaluated and started on appropriate treatment
		Home— WITH high risk individuals OR High-Risk/Congregate Setting	<p>Patients with infectious TB should NOT be allowed to return to a setting with high risk individuals. The patient can be <i>discharged</i> and is considered non-infectious if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three consecutive negative sputum smears from sputum collected in 8 - 24 hour intervals (at least one early morning specimen) AND Started on drug regimen and tolerating for AT LEAST 2 weeks or longer AND Symptoms have improved
Sputum AFB Smear Negative (or No Sputum AFB Smear Done) AND NAAT Positive	High likelihood of TB	Home—with/without high risk individuals OR High-Risk/Congregate Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three consecutive negative sputum smears from sputum collected in 8 to 24 hour intervals (at least one early morning specimen) Started on standard TB treatment and tolerating for AT LEAST 5 days
Sputum AFB Smear Negative AND NAAT Negative	High likelihood of TB	Home—with/without high risk individuals OR High-Risk/Congregate Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A plan has been made to follow-up on culture results No infants or children younger than 5 years of age or persons with immunocompromising conditions are present in the household who have not been evaluated and started on appropriate treatment

AFB - Acid-fast bacilli **AII** - airborne infection isolation **DOT** - Directly Observed Therapy **DST** - Drug Susceptibility Testing **MDDR** - Molecular Detection of Drug Resistance
MDR - Multi-drug resistant **NAAT** - Nucleic Acid Amplification Test **TB** - Tuberculosis **XDR** - Extensively-drug resistant

^aPulmonary Tuberculosis

^bThe hospital and/or treating clinician should contact the local health department prior to release of a patient with confirmed active TB disease.

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Diagnostics:	Clinical Impression:	Under Airborne Isolation (AII) and discharging to:	Patient must meet all criteria:
Sputum AFB Smear Negative <u>AND</u> NAAT Negative	TB is unlikely	Home—with/without high risk individuals OR High-Risk/Congregate Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three consecutive negative sputum smears from sputum collected in 8 to 24 hour intervals (at least one early morning specimen) • A plan has been made to follow-up on culture results • A diagnosis other than TB is identified or is likely
Sputum AFB Smear Positive <u>AND</u> NAAT Negative **A second NAAT should be considered to confirm**	High likelihood of TB	Home—with/without high risk individuals OR High-Risk/Congregate Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three consecutive negative sputum smears from sputum collected in 8 to 24 hour intervals (at least one early morning specimen) • Started on standard TB treatment and tolerating for AT LEAST 5 days • A plan has been made to follow-up on culture results • No infants or children younger than 5 years of age or persons with immunocompromising conditions are present in the household who have not been evaluated and started on appropriate treatment
	TB is unlikely		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three consecutive negative sputum smears from sputum collected in 8 to 24 hour intervals (at least one early morning specimen) • A plan has been made to follow-up on culture results • A diagnosis other than TB is identified or is likely
Confirmed or Strongly Suspected MDR or XDR Diagnosed via: DST, MDDR, GeneXpert, or MTB/RIF Assay	N/A	Home—with/without high risk individuals OR High-Risk/Congregate Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three consecutive negative sputum smears from sputum collected in 8 to 24 hour intervals (at least one early morning specimen) <u>AND</u> • Started on adequate DR-TB drug regimen and tolerating for AT LEAST 2 weeks (14 daily doses) or longer <u>AND</u> • At least 2 consecutive negative sputum cultures without a subsequent positive culture

References:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in Health-Care Settings*. MMWR: December 30, 2005; Volume 54 (RR17).
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Controlling Tuberculosis in the United States*. MMWR: November 4, 2005; Volume 54 (RR12s).

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