



What is Tuberculosis?

TB Disease: TB is transmitted through the air and infects the lungs, but can spread to other organs. People with TB disease usually have symptoms including cough, fever, or weight loss and are often highly infectious.

Latent TB Infection (LTBI):

Asymptomatic infection with TB bacteria. Although persons with LTBI feel well and are not infectious, they can develop TB disease months or years after being infected.

¹MDHHS TB Risk Assessment for Adults and Pediatrics.

Risk factors prompting testing include:

- Birth, travel or residence in a country with elevated TB rate for at least one month.
- Immunosuppression, current or planned, consult risk assessment for details.
- Close contact to someone with infectious TB disease (bit.ly/3YzfRrC).

²Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA).*

May include Quantiferon Gold TB Plus or T-SPOT. IGRAs are not affected by prior BCG vaccination. CDC guidelines recommend TB skin test for children <5 years of age, while noting some experts use TB blood tests in younger children.

³Prior treatment for TB disease or LTBI.*

Carefully evaluate any prior treatment episodes. Generally, patients should only be treated for LTBI once.

⁴TB symptom screen.*

Patients should be asked about any of these symptoms: cough >2-3 weeks; hemoptysis; fever or chills; night sweats; unintended weight loss; loss of appetite; fatigue; chest pain. Other symptoms or signs of extrapulmonary TB should be considered, depending upon the site affected.

⁵Chest X-Ray.*

All patients with TB infection should undergo a chest radiograph (CXR) as part of the evaluation. All patients should receive a posterior-anterior CXR. Patients <5 years should receive a lateral CXR in addition to the posterior-anterior. Alert the radiologist that the purpose is to check for TB disease, and to interpret with a high index of suspicion for TB.

⁶Pregnant patients.*

If an asymptomatic, pregnant woman has a positive TB test result, either IGRA or TST, she should receive a medical evaluation, including a CXR with a lead shield.

⁷Medical conditions or comorbidities.*

Treating LTBI in these patients can be complex and may increase the risk of adverse events.

⁸Baseline liver function tests (LFTs).*

Baseline LFTs are recommended for patients with any of the following: HIV infection; daily or heavy alcohol use, liver disease, or chronic hepatitis; pregnant and postpartum (up to 2-3 months after delivery); currently injecting drugs; taking other potentially hepatotoxic medications; prior elevated serum transaminase concentrations; hematologic conditions.

⁹LTBI treatment regimen.*

Three- or four-month regimens are preferred, and drug interactions should be considered.

¹⁰Local health departments and expert consultation.

- Report all suspected or confirmed cases of TB disease to your local health department. bit.ly/3Yulsz6
- Request expert TB clinical consultation from MDHHS TB clinical consultation program. bit.ly/3K5e1dy
- Other questions or needs, email MDHHS-TB@michigan.gov or visit Michigan.gov/TB for more information.

*References 2-9, consult **Testing and Treatment of Latent Tuberculosis Infection in the United States** for more information (bit.ly/40TXQFW).