

**NOW OFFERED at WV Office of Laboratory Services:
Direct TB testing from respiratory samples**

Gen Probe® AMPLIFIED™ Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Direct (MTD) test is a target-amplified test for detection of Mtb rRNA in a concentrated respiratory specimen within 72 hours of arrival at OLS. Manufactured by GenProbe, it uses fluorescent technology measured on the Leader 50i and is approved by FDA for smear negative or positive sediments. MTD will be offered at no cost to any WV submitter (hospital, clinic, health department or jail). Test request forms are available on our website at www.wvdhhr.org/labservices.

MTD is performed on respiratory specimens (**sputum, bronch, tracheal aspirates**), collected in sterile plastic containers, stored at 2° to 8° C until transported or processed. Grossly bloody specimens are unsuitable and will not be tested by this method. Transport specimens to laboratory as soon as possible. Specimens are processed with NALC-NaOH decontamination protocol and sediments are held for test. Sediments may be stored at 2° to 8° C for up to three days prior to testing. Only one specimen per patient will be tested.

MTD is not used as a follow-up test after drug therapy.

MTD will be confirmed by a niacin test when growth of 100 colonies on solid media is available. An AccuProbe M. tb complex will not be done on the isolate.

Criteria for ordering MTD test, one or more of the following:

1. new positive smear;
2. patient with positive skin test;
3. patient with abnormal chest X-ray;
4. symptomatic patient who is a contact to a TB patient;
5. on doctor's request, after consultation with TB control or OLS TB unit personnel.

Patient history requirements:

1. Patient should not be on TB medications, or if on TB meds, received no longer than 7 days therapy.
2. Patient should not have received TB therapy within the last 12 months.

Acceptable specimens from hospitals:

1. One (1) ml NaOH-NaCit sediment within 3 days or less of processing sent at ambient temperature.
2. Clinical unprocessed specimens (sputum, bronch, tracheal aspirates).

Call the TB unit at 304.558.3530, 2621 with any questions.