

# Screening Algorithm for Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Does the client have any one or more of the following signs and symptoms?

## TB Signs and symptoms in Adults and Children

1. Cough of any duration
2. Persistent fever (Temperature > 37.5°C)
3. Drenching night sweats
4. Unexplained weight loss
5. Chest pain
6. Difficulty in breathing
7. Fatigue (lethargy)
8. History of contact with a person with TB or chronic cough

## Other TB Sign in adults

1. Body Mass Index (BMI) <18.5

## Other TB Signs and symptoms in Children

1. Poor weight gain or faltering of the growth curve
2. Z-score < -2 (for weight-for-age or height-for-age)
3. Reduced playfulness / less active (lethargy)

No

Yes

## Does the patient have any of the following:

- Advanced HIV Disease (AHD) (CD4 <200 cells/mL or WHO Stage 3/4) in the following:
  - Newly diagnosed (People Living with HIV)
  - PLHIV returning to care after treatment interruption of 3 months or longer
  - Suspected treatment failure for ART
  - Children Living with HIV <5 years (except those on ART > 1 year, virally suppressed and clinically stable)
- **NEW:** Baseline for all newly diagnosed PLHIV
- Social/occupational risk factors (**Box 1**)
- Key vulnerable populations (KVPs) (**Box 2**)

No

Yes

Is a Chest Xray (CXR) available?

Yes  
Do a CXR

No\*

Normal

PLHIV

Abnormal

CRP

HIV-Negative  
clients

<5mg/dl or  
unavailable

>5mg/dl

## Presumptive TB patient

Refer to the appropriate diagnostic  
algorithm for pulmonary TB and other  
lung conditions

- Evaluate for other conditions
- Manage appropriately
- Evaluate for TPT eligibility

## Box 1: Social/Occupational Risk

1. HCWS
2. Mine workers
3. Prisoners and wardens
4. Refugees, migrants, and displaced populations
5. Urban poor communities, homeless communities

## Box 2: Key and Vulnerable populations (KVPs)

1. Patients with diabetes
2. Patients on dialysis
3. Patients with cancer
4. Patients with immunosuppressive conditions/therapy

## \* If No CXR for PLHIV, do CRP if

- >5mg/dl - Consider Presumptive TB
- <5 mg/dl - Evaluate for other conditions, Manage appropriately, Evaluate for TPT eligibility