TB Symptoms
• Cough ≥ 3 weeks or hemoptysis?
• Fever, fatigue, night sweats, weight loss?

RULE OUT TB DISEASE
• Isolate away from others (negative pressure optimal)
• TB patient - surgical mask
• Staff - N95 mask
• Consult M.D. and/or local health dept
• Assess for TB risk factors
• TST or IGRA
• CXR ASAP (within 24 hours)
• Consider ordering sputum

CXR indicative of TB or sputum smear positive?

TB SUSPECT
• Must be in negative pressure room
• TB patient - surgical mask
• Staff - N95 mask
• Contact local health department
• Order sputum if not already done
• Consider treatment for TB disease
• Consider initiating contact investigation

Documented negative TST, IGRA or CXR in past year?
-OR-
Documented record of adequate TB treatment or on TB treatment?

Risk factors for TB?*

Documented previously positive IGRA or TST?

Give TST or IGRA**

TST or IGRA Negative**

TST or IGRA Positive**

GET CXR

CXR normal

CXR abnormal indicative of TB

DONE

INCARCERATED 15 days or more?

DONE

Recent contact or HIV/AIDS

Repeat TST, IGRA or CXR needed (whichever appropriate)

DONE

TB symptoms?

DONE

GET CXR DONE

Consider referral to local health department or PCP for LTBI treatment upon release.
* TB Risk Factors include:
  (a) HIV/AIDS;
  (b) Immigration within the past five years from a country that has a high incidence of TB, including but not limited to immigration from Africa, Asia, Middle East, Latin America, Eastern Europe and South Pacific regions;
  (c) Close contact to a person with infectious TB disease;
  (d) History of injection drug use;
  (e) History of homelessness; and
  (f) Taking immunosuppressive medication.

** Interpreting the TB skin test

≥ 5 mm is positive for:
  • HIV infected;
  • Recent contacts;
  • People with fibrotic changes on CXR;
  • Patients with organ transplant and others on immunosuppressant drugs (including prolonged course of oral or intravenous corticosteroids or TNF alpha inhibitors).

≥ 10 mm is positive for all other inmates tested:
  • Recent immigrants (≤5 yrs) from high TB burden countries;
  • Injection drug users;
  • Mycobacterial lab workers;
  • People who live/work in high risk congregate settings (health care workers, long-term care, correctional facilities);
  • People with:
    Diabetes, severe kidney disease, silicosis, cancer of head or neck, hematologic or reticuloendothelial disease such as Hodgkin’s disease or leukemia, intestinal bypass or gastrectomy, chronic malabsorption syndromes, low body weight.

TST = TB skin test
IGRA = Interferon gamma release assay (QuantiFERON® or T-SPOT. TB)
CXR = Chest x-ray
LTBI = Latent TB infection
PCP = Primary care provider