

## UPDATED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE USE OF INTERFERON-GAMMA RELEASE ASSAYS (IGRAs) FOR TB DIAGNOSIS

AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY (ATS), CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC), INFECTIOUS DISEASE SOCIETY OF AMERICA (IDSA)

### IGRAs are now preferred over the Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) in the following situations:

#### 1. Individuals 5 years or older who meet the following criteria, regardless of BCG vaccination:

- a. Likely to be infected with TB
- b. Have a low or intermediate risk of disease progression
- c. It has been decided that testing for latent TB infection (LTBI) is warranted

Likely to be infected <sup>1</sup>	Risk of disease progression <sup>1</sup>	Examples	Guideline preferred test <sup>1</sup>
Household contact or recent exposure of an active case	Low: No risk factors	Close contacts of persons known or suspected to have active TB; recent exposures/TB outbreaks	IGRA
Mycobacteriology laboratory personnel	-or-	Laboratory staff involved with TB specimen collection, transport and processing	IGRA
Immigrants from high burden countries	Intermediate:	Regions include: Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and Russia <sup>2</sup>	IGRA
Residents and employees of high-risk congregate settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diabetes</li> <li>• Chronic Renal Failure</li> <li>• Intravenous drug use</li> </ul>	Correctional facilities, long-term care facilities, homeless shelters, etc	IGRA

Test	Sensitivity
T-SPOT.TB	90% - 95%
QFT	81% - 86%
TST	71% - 82%

High sensitivity is one of the key measurements of diagnostic test performance, especially in individuals that carry a greater risk of TB disease infection and progression. According to the guidelines, the sensitivity of the T-SPOT<sup>®</sup>.TB test is superior to the sensitivity of QuantiFERON<sup>®</sup>-TB Gold In-Tube (QFT<sup>®</sup>) and TST.<sup>1</sup>

#### 2. Individuals 5 years or older who are unlikely to be infected with TB:

Example populations unlikely to be infected	Risk of disease progression <sup>1</sup>	Example settings where TB test required	Guideline preferred test <sup>1</sup>
Low-risk healthcare workers	Low: No risk factors	Employee health testing	IGRA
Students and teachers		School enrollment	IGRA
Police, firefighters/rescue		Occupational Health/Medicine	IGRA

1. Lewinsohn DM, Leonard MK, LoBue PA, et al. Official American Thoracic Society/Infectious Disease Society of America/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Clinical Practice Guidelines: Diagnosis of Tuberculosis in Adults and Children. Clin Infect Dis. 2017; 64(2): e1e33.

2. Stop TB Partnership. High Burden Countries. <http://www.stoptb.org/countries/tbdata.asp>.

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