

## DIRECT DETECTION FOR NUCLEIC ACID OF M. TUBERCULOSIS COMPLEX – PROBETEC DTB

**Synonym(s):** TB Probetec, TB PCR, Mycobacterium Tuberculosis ProbeTec

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|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Lab Section Category</b>  | <b>Mycobacteriology</b><br>Click here to find out more about the <b>write-up</b> ( <a href="/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/mycobacteriology.aspx">/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/mycobacteriology.aspx</a> ).         |
| <b>Specimen Required</b>     | As for Mycobacterial Culture, except that blood and bone marrow specimens should be collected in sterile screw-capped containers or plain Vacutainer tubes (NOT in Myco-F-Lytic vials) and delivered to the lab immediately. If delay is unavoidable, the sample may be collected in EDTA or citrated tubes, though amplification results may be less consistent. |
| <b>Storage and Transport</b> | Collect in a dedicated container. Do not order non-CTBL tests using the same request form and on the same specimen. Specimens should reach CTBL within 24 hours of collection. If transport delay is unavoidable, store at 4 <sup>0</sup> C.  |
| <b>Method</b>                | ProbeTec Assay (BD ProbeTec ET system) using strand displacement amplification (SDA)  |
| <b>Test Result</b>           | <i>M. tuberculosis</i> complex DNA detected / Not detected / Indeterminate  |
| <b>Turnaround Time</b>       | 2 - 5 working days  |
| <b>Day(s) Test Set up</b>    | Tuesdays and Fridays  |
| <b>Remarks</b>               | Reflex Testing: These tests only provide preliminary information for empirical TB management. A reflex AFB culture, including an AFB smear for respiratory samples if the volume is adequate, is also set up for each specimen. These additional tests are chargeable. Written instruction from the doctor is necessary if these are not to be performed.         |

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### Change History Notes

- **13 Oct 2012 11:36 AM**  
New test Xpert MTB/RIF Assay was added.

- **15 Oct 2012 06:31 PM**  
Amend the TAT for Xpert MTB/RIF Assay to 1-2 working days.
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- **16 Oct 2015 05:42 PM**  
Created new test page for Xpert MTB/RIF Assay
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- **29 Apr 2016 05:09 PM**  
Add in Indeterminate into Test result.
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