

TB Training Resources and Guidelines

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) Infectious Disease team is excited to share new tuberculosis (TB) testing resources. While focused on laboratory aspects of TB, these resources may also be useful and of interest to clinicians, epidemiologists, and TB Control program staff. Please review these resources and share them with relevant colleagues and partners.

Updated! *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*: Assessing Your Laboratory, 2019 Edition

The *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*: Assessing Your Laboratory tool has been updated to reflect changes in TB diagnostic testing over the last six years since the 2013 version was published. The tool, designed to assist laboratories in assessing the quality of their TB diagnostic practices, includes new or modified questions on competency, safety and general laboratory practices. Please visit the [Self-Assessment Tool webpage](#) to access the interactive website portal.



What's New!

1. Additional Safety and General Laboratory Practice Questions. Topics include:

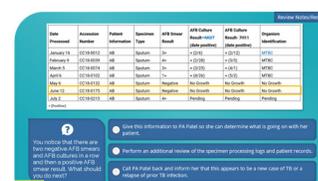
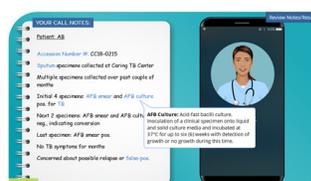
- Use of MALDI-TOF
- Proper inactivation of TB DNA for downstream testing
- Evaluating employee competency

2. New and Updated References

New! Training Module: *Mycobacteriology False-Positive Case Studies*

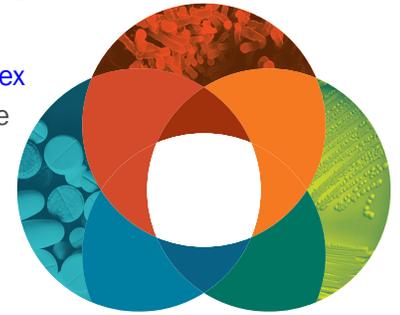
We have published a new training module, *Mycobacteriology False-Positive Case Studies* in the Essentials for the Mycobacteriology Laboratory: Promoting Quality Practices series. In the new module, laboratorians are provided an opportunity to navigate through five real-world cases in which a false-positive *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* result may have been reported. The scenarios include pre-analytical, analytical, and post-analytical false-positive investigations. Participants will use this interactive module to help identify and investigate potential false-positive results. The new module and all other modules in the Essentials for the

Mycobacteriology Laboratory: Promoting Quality Practices series are available at www.aphl.org/TBtraining.



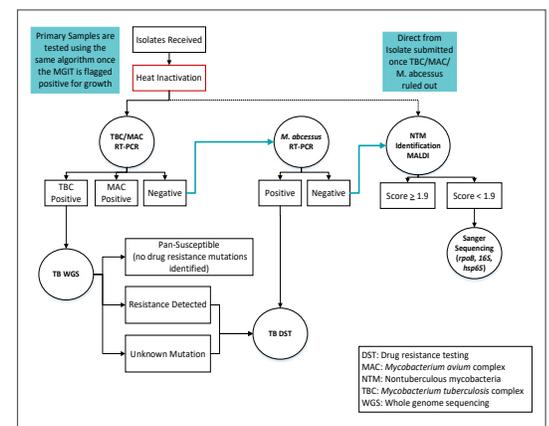
New! Issues in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Complex (MTBC) Drug Susceptibility Testing: Rifampin (RIF)

APHL has published a new white paper, [Issues in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Complex \(MTBC\) Drug Susceptibility Testing: Rifampin \(RIF\)](#). This document is a comprehensive overview of RIF susceptibility testing and the challenges associated with identifying resistance. Both growth-based phenotypic as well as molecular-based genotypic methods of testing are described. Impacts of testing for RIF resistance on clinical management as well as ongoing research are also addressed in this document.



New! Best Practices for Identification of *Mycobacterium* Species Using Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization-Time of Flight (MALDI-TOF) Mass Spectrometry

The recently published fact sheet, [Best Practices for Identification of *Mycobacterium* Species Using Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization-Time of Flight Mass Spectrometry](#), outlines best practices for the use of MALDI-TOF as it applies specifically to the identification of *Mycobacterium* species, including both MTBC and nontuberculous *Mycobacteria* (NTM).



Conference Presentations Available: 11th National Conference on Laboratory Aspects of Tuberculosis (April 23–24, 2019)

The 11th National Conference on Laboratory Aspects of Tuberculosis was an exciting time for TB laboratorians to hear the latest and greatest in TB testing. If you missed the conference or want a refresher, conference presentations and posters are now available. For a complete listing of all conference presentations, please visit the [APHL TB Conference Presentations webpage](#).



APHL develops, promotes, updates, and disseminates guidance related to Tuberculosis (TB) testing best practices nationwide in close collaboration with the Division of Tuberculosis Elimination (DTBE) at CDC. All of these materials can be found at www.aphl.org/TB.

Learn more about TB Training Materials and Guidance Resources

www.aphl.org/TB