



National Tuberculosis Curriculum Consortium Tuberculosis Glossary

Term	Abbreviation (if any)	Description
A		
active tuberculosis		an illness in which TB bacteria are multiplying and attacking a part of the body, usually the lungs. The symptoms of active TB disease include weakness, weight loss, fever, no appetite, chills, and sweating at night. Other symptoms of active TB disease depend on where in the body the bacteria are growing. If active TB disease is in the lungs (pulmonary TB), the symptoms may include a bad cough, pain in the chest, and coughing up blood. A person with active TB disease may be infectious and spread TB bacteria to others.
adenopathy		swelling or enlargement of the lymph nodes.
acid-fast bacilli	AFB	microorganisms that are distinguished by their retention of specific stains even after being rinsed with an acid solution. The majority of AFB in patient specimens are mycobacteria. The term, mycobacteria, includes <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> complex as well as nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM). A positive nucleic acid amplification (NAA) or culture result is needed to differentiate <i>M. tuberculosis</i> from the others.
AFB smear		a laboratory technique for preparing a specimen so bacteria can be visualized microscopically. Material from the specimen is spread onto a glass slide, dried and stained. Smear, stain, and microscopy methods for mycobacteria are specific to this genus (see AFB). The slide can be scanned by light or fluorescent high-power microscopy.
Acquired Immunodeficiency Disease Syndrome	AIDS	a disease in which the immune system is weakened and therefore less able to fight certain infections and diseases; AIDS is caused by infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
airborne infection isolation	AII	isolation of patients infected with organisms that are spread via airborne droplet nuclei < 5 microns in diameter.

airborne infection isolation room	AII room	single-occupancy patient care room in which environmental factors are controlled to minimize the transmission of infectious agents that are usually spread from person to person by droplet nuclei associated with coughing or aerosolization of contaminated fluids. AII rooms have specific requirements for controlled ventilation, air pressures, and air filtration.
Alveoli		the small air sacs of the lung that are at the end of the airway; when droplet nuclei reach these air sacs, TB infection begins.
Amikacin		an injectable second-line drug in the aminoglycoside class that is used for patients with drug-resistant tuberculosis whose isolate has demonstrated or presumed susceptibility to the agent.
Aminoglycoside		a class of injectable broad-spectrum antibiotics active against TB and many gram-negative bacteria; they can cause renal toxicity and ototoxicity. Aminoglycosides used to treat TB include streptomycin, amikacin, and kanamycin.
Amprenavir		an inhibitor of HIV-1 protease. It is used in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.
anergy		a condition wherein a person has diminished ability to exhibit delayed T-cell hypersensitivity reaction to antigens. When referring to inability to react to a skin test, the correct term is cutaneous anergy. Skin test for anergy (i.e., control antigens) have poor predictive value and are not recommended for TB diagnostics.
antibiotic resistance		the ability of a microorganism to withstand the effects of antibiotics. Antibiotic resistance typically evolves when random mutation of the microorganism develops which makes it less susceptible to the effects of a particular drug, but it can also be engineered by applying an evolutionary stress on a population.
antibiotic susceptibility test		See drug susceptibility test.
Advanced Practice Nurse	APN	Advanced Practice Nurse, commonly referred to as a nurse practitioner.

antiretroviral therapy	ART	the use of a particular class of drugs (antiretrovirals) to treat HIV-1 infection.
antiretroviral agents	ARV agents	the categories of antiretroviral agents currently available for the treatment of HIV-1 infection are nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTI), nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NtRTI) and nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTI), and protease inhibitors (PI).
American Thoracic Society	ATS	American Thoracic Society
bacteriologic examination		tests done in a mycobacteriology laboratory to diagnose TB disease; includes examining a specimen under a microscope, culturing the specimen, and doing drug susceptibility testing.
B		
bronchoalveolar lavage	BAL	a procedure for collecting respiratory specimens from the airway, typically during bronchoscopy. Sterile saline is introduced into an airway, and the resultant mixture of cells, secretions, and saline is aspirated for studies (e.g., microscopy and culture).
blood assay for <i>M. tuberculosis</i>	BAMT	a general term for laboratory tests on blood specimens to determine the presence of <i>M. Tuberculosis</i> . Interferon-gamma release assay (IGRA) is the most common type of test in this category.
baseline skin test		the tuberculin skin test given to employees or residents in certain facilities when they start their job or enter the facility.
<i>Mycobacterium bovis</i> bacillus Calmette-Guérin	BCG	a vaccine for tuberculosis named after the French scientists Calmette and Guérin. The vaccine is effective in reducing the risk of disseminated and meningeal TB disease in infants and young children. However, the effectiveness of BCG in preventing pulmonary TB in adults is highly controversial. It is used in multiple countries where TB disease is endemic.
Baccalaureate Nursing Program	BNP	Baccalaureate Nursing Program

boosted reaction		The delayed type sensitivity to tuberculin can wane or disappear with time, and subsequent tuberculin skin tests can restore the sensitivity. This is called boosting or the booster phenomenon. Boosting can cause an initially limited reaction size to be followed by a larger reaction size on a later test. If the time interval between test is long, this situation can be confused with a conversion or a recent <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection. Two-step testing is used to distinguish new infections from boosted reactions in infection-control surveillance programs, but this method is not recommended for testing contacts of persons with active TB.
bronchiectasis		persistent and progressive dialation of bronchi or bronchioles as a consequence of inflammatory disease, obstruction or congenital abnormality. Symptoms include fetid breath and paroxysmal coughing, with the expectoration of mucopurulent matter.
bronchoscopy		a procedure for examining the lower respiratory tract that requires inserting the end of an endoscopic instrument through the mouth or nose (or tracheostomy) and into the respiratory tree. It can be used to obtain diagnostic specimens. It also creates a high risk for <i>M. tuberculosis</i> transmission to health care workers if it is used on a patient who has TB (even if the patient is smear negative), because the procedure induces coughing.
Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing	BSN	Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
C		
community acquired pneumonia	CAP	an infection of the lungs occurring in individuals who have not been recently hospitalized. May be caused by bacteria, viruses, fungi, or parasites.
capreomycin		a second-line injectable drug that is used for patient with drug-resistant tuberculosis.
cavity		a hole in the lung parenchyma, typically not involving the pleural space. Although multiple causes can account for a lung cavity, and its appearance may be similar regardless of its cause, in pulmonary TB, it results from the destruction of pulmonary tissue by direct bacterial invasion and an immune interaction triggered by <i>M. tuberculosis</i> . A tuberculous cavity large enough to see with a normal chest radiograph predicts infectiousness.

Complete Blood Count	CBC	Complete Blood Count.
Clinical Case Description	CCD	An educational product of the NTCC. It is a static text document comprised of all the relevant facts that are included in the corresponding computerized case (CC).
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
Cerebrospinal fluid	CFS	cerebrospinal fluid.
Close contacts		persons who had prolonged, frequent, or intense contact with a person with TB while he or she was infectious. This group includes persons who live together or spend a great deal of time together in close quarters. Close contacts are more likely to become infected with <i>M. tuberculosis</i> than contacts who see the person with TB less often.
Clinical Laboratory Sciences	CLS	Clinical Laboratory Sciences
colonies		groups of bacteria such as mycobacteria that have grown to a mass in a culture that can be seen with the naked eye.
contact		refers to someone who has been exposed to <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection by sharing air space with a person with infectious TB.
contact investigation		a procedure for interviewing a person who has TB disease to determine who may have been exposed to TB. People who have been exposed to TB are screened for TB infection and disease.
continuation phase		the period after the first 8 weeks of treatment, during which tubercle bacilli that remain after the initial phase are killed.
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.
Creatinine		a waste product of protein metabolism that is found in the urine. It can be measured to assess overall kidney function. An abnormally elevated blood creatinine level

is seen in those individuals with kidney insufficiency and kidney failure.

culture

a test to see whether there are TB bacteria sputum or other body fluids. This test can take 2 to 4 weeks in most laboratories.

chest X-ray

CXR

an image, also known as a chest radiograph of the inside of the chest. The image is created by passing X-rays through the chest and recording the rays that are blocked by organs or structures within the body. A doctor can look at this image to see whether TB bacteria have damaged the lungs.

cycloserine

a second-line drug that is used for treating patients with drug-resistant tuberculosis.

D

delavirdine

A nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor of the human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1). It is used in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.

demographic factors

factors such as country of origin, age, gender, ethnic or racial group, and occupation.

Department of Health and Human Services

DHHS

Department of Health and Human Services.

diabetes mellitus

DM

a disease in which the body's ability to use sugar is weakened.

disseminated TB

see Miliary TB.

directly observed therapy

DOT

an adherence-enhancing strategy in which a healthcare worker or other trained person watches a patient swallow each dose of medication and is accountable to the public health system. DOT is the preferred method of care for all patients with TB disease and is a preferred option for patients under treatment for latent infection.

Droplet nuclei

Very small droplets, 1 to 5 microns in diameter, that may be expelled when a person who has infectious TB coughs or sneezes; they can remain suspended in the air for several hours, depending on the environment.

Drug-resistant TB		TB disease caused by <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> organisms that are resistant to at least one first-line antituberculosis drug.
drug-susceptibility test	DST	a laboratory determination to assess whether an <i>M. tuberculosis</i> complex isolate is susceptible or resistant to anti-TB drugs that are added to mycobacterial growth medium. The results predict whether a specific drug is likely to be effective in treating TB disease caused by that isolate.
delayed type hypersensitivity	DTH	cell-mediated inflammatory reaction to an antigen that is recognized by the immune system, typically because of previous exposure to the same or similar antigens. Cell-mediated reactions are contrasted with an antibody (or humoral) response. DTH typically peaks 48--72 hours after exposure to the antigen.
dyspnea		difficult or labored respiration.
E		
emergency department	ED	formerly known as Emergency Room (ER).
efavirenz		a nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor of the human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1). It is used in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.
Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay	ELISA	a method that uses antibodies to detect proteins such as antigens or antibodies. The specificity of the detecting antibodies can be to HIV, TB or other pathogens as determined by the test setup. ELISA can be used to diagnose TB or as part of a test such as the IGRA test.
ethambutol	EMB	a first-line drug for treating all forms of TB. It is included in initial treatment regimens primarily to prevent emergence of rifampin (RIF) resistance when primary resistance to isoniazid (INH) may be present. EMB may cause vision problems and should not be given to children who are too young to be monitored for changes in their vision.
epidemiology		the study of the distribution and causes of disease and other conditions in populations.
erythema		redness around the site of the injection when a Mantoux

skin test is done; erythema is not considered when the reaction size is measured, because redness does not indicate that a person has TB infection.

ethionamide

a second-line drug used for patients with drug-resistant tuberculosis disease.

extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis

XDR TB

XDR TB is defined as disease caused by infection with a TB strain that is resistant to INH and RIF (MDR TB) PLUS added resistance to any one of the fluoroquinolone antibiotics (e.g., ciprofloxacin, moxifloxacin or levofloxacin) AND at least one of the three injectable drugs, (i.e. amikacin, kanamycin or capreomycin).

exposure

the condition of being subjected to something (e.g., an infectious agent) that could have an effect. A person exposed to *M. tuberculosis* does not necessarily become infected. Much of the work in a TB contact investigation is dedicated to learning who was exposed and, of these, who became infected.

extra-pulmonary TB

TB disease that occurs in places other than the lungs, such as the lymph nodes, the pleura, the brain, the kidneys, or the bones; most types of extrapulmonary TB are not infectious.

F

false-negative reaction

a negative reaction to the tuberculin skin test in a person who has TB infection; may be caused by anergy, recent infection (within the past 10 weeks), or very young age (younger than 6 months old)

false-positive reaction

a positive reaction to the tuberculin skin test in a person who does not have TB infection; may be caused by infection with nontuberculous mycobacteria or by vaccination with BCG

fit test

a test performed to determine the proper fitting of an N95 respirator.

fluorochrome staining

the use of any fluorescent dye (e.g., auramine, rhodamine) used to label or stain. Must be viewed using a fluorescence microscope.

fluoroquinolones

a class of synthetic broad-spectrum antibacterial agents. Examples of fluoroquinolones used to treat TB are levofloxacin, moxifloxacin, gatifloxacin, and ofloxacin.

foreign-born persons people born outside of the United States; foreign-born persons from areas of the world where TB is common (for example, Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean) are more likely to become exposed to and infected with TB.

G

gastric washing a procedure done by inserting a tube through the patient's nose and passing it into the stomach; may be useful for obtaining sputum from children, who produce little or no sputum when they cough.

gatifloxacin a fluoroquinolone used as a second-line agent in the treatment of TB.

granuloma chronic inflammatory lesion characterized by large numbers of cells of various types (e.g. macrophages, lymphocytes, fibroblasts, and giant cells).

H

highly active antiretroviral therapy HAART a type of chemotherapy used to treat AIDS.

health care worker HCW health care worker

HEENT HEENT Head, Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Throat. Acronym for clinical evaluation.

hemoptysis expectoration (coughing up) of blood.

HEPA filters HEPA filters high-efficiency particulate air filters are used in ventilation systems to help remove droplet nuclei from the air.

hepatitis damage to the liver, causing symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fatigue, and dark urine; hepatitis can be caused by several drugs used to treat TB infection or disease.

hepatotoxicity injury to the liver; can be a side effect of medications.

hilar		relating to, affecting, or located near the depression in the medial surface of a lung that forms the opening through which the bronchus, blood vessels, and nerves pass. Seen in the center of a chest radiograph.
Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act	HIPAA	The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 included provisions to protect the privacy of individually identifiable health information. To implement these privacy protections, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has issued a ruling on how health care providers may use and disclose personally identifiable health information about their patients.
Human Immunodeficiency Virus	HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HIV infection	HIV infection	infection with the human immunodeficiency virus, the virus that causes AIDS. A person with both latent TB infection and HIV infection is at very high risk for active TB disease.
HIV Medicine Association	HIVMA	HIV Medicine Association
I		
Infectious Disease Society of America	IDSA	Infectious Disease Society of America
injection drug users	IDU	injection drug users
interferon-gamma release assay	IGRA	an in vitro diagnostic aid that measures a component of cell-mediated immune reactivity to <i>M. tuberculosis</i> . The test is based on the quantification of interferon-gamma (IFN-g) released from sensitized lymphocytes in whole blood incubated overnight with purified protein derivative (PPD) from <i>M. tuberculosis</i> and control antigens.
immunocompromised and immunosuppressed		conditions in which at least part of the immune system is functioning at less than normal capacity. According to some style experts, immunocompromised is the broader term, and immunosuppressed is restricted to conditions with iatrogenic causes, including treatments for another condition. Some immunocompromised conditions increase the likelihood that <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection will progress to TB disease. Certain conditions also make TB

disease or infection from *M. tuberculosis* more difficult to diagnose because manifestations of TB disease differ, and tests for infection rely on an intact immune system.

immunosuppressive therapy

therapy that suppresses, or weakens, the immune system.

index

the first case or patient that comes to attention as an indicator of a potential public health problem. Contrast with Source.

indinavir

indinavir is an inhibitor of HIV-1 protease. It is used in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.

induced sputum

sputum that is obtained by having the patient inhale a saline (salt water) mist, causing the patient to cough deeply; this procedure is used to help patients cough up sputum if they cannot do so on their own.

induration

the area of firmness in the skin test reaction. Induration is produced by immune-cell infiltration in response to tuberculin antigen that was introduced into the skin. It is measured by palpation transversely, and the result is recorded in millimeters (mm). The measurement is compared to guidelines to determine whether the test result is classified as positive or negative.

infection

a condition in which microorganisms have entered the body and started to grow within tissue. If the infection is held in check the individual may remain healthy for a period of time such as with *M. tuberculosis* infection which may be held in check by the immune system, creating a condition called latent TB infection (LTBI). If the infection progresses at some point to make the person sick then the infection has progressed to active disease such as in the case of active TB disease.

infectiousness

the infectiousness of a person with TB disease is directly related to the number of tubercle bacilli that he or she expels into the air. Persons who expel many tubercle bacilli are more infectious than patients who expel few or no bacilli.

infiltrate

a collection of fluid and cells in the tissues of the lung; visible on a chest x-ray in people with pulmonary TB disease.

isoniazid	INH	A first-line agent for treatment of all forms of TB.
initial phase		the first 8 weeks of treatment, during which most of the tubercle bacilli are killed.
intermittent regimen		a treatment schedule in which the patient takes each prescribed medication two or three times weekly at the appropriate dosage.
immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome	IRIS	a transient worsening or appearance of new signs/symptoms or radiographic manifestations of TB that occur after initiation of treatment and are not the result of treatment failure or a second process. Common manifestations of IRIS include fever, increased lymphadenopathy and worsening of the pulmonary infiltrates.
isolate		a group of organisms isolated, or separated, from a specimen; in an <i>M. tuberculosis</i> isolate, the organisms have been identified as <i>M. tuberculosis</i> (a positive culture for <i>M. tuberculosis</i>)
isoniazid	INH	the drug that is most often used for preventive therapy and also used to treat TB disease; although relatively safe, it may cause hepatitis and other adverse reactions in some patients.
K		
kanamycin		an injectable second-line drug in the aminoglycoside class that is used for patients with drug-resistant tuberculosis.
L		
laryngeal TB		a highly infectious form of TB disease, with erosive, exudative invasion of the larynx.
levofloxacin		a fluoroquinolone used as a second-line agent in the treatment of TB.
liver function test	LFT	tests done to detect damage to the liver.
latent tuberculosis infection	LTBI	a condition in which TB bacteria are alive but inactive in the body. People with latent TB infection have no symptoms, don't feel sick, can't spread TB bacteria to

others, and usually have a positive TB test. But they may develop active TB disease if they do not receive treatment for latent TB infection.

lymphadenopathy

swelling of the lymph nodes.

M

Mycobacterium avium complex MAC

the name of a group of germs that can infect people who are living with HIV. Adults with HIV usually don't get MAC disease until their T-cell count drops below 50. Because MAC disease occurs later in the course of HIV infection, it usually is not the first sickness a person with HIV gets. Most people with HIV have already been diagnosed with AIDS before they get MAC. About 20 to 30 percent of people with AIDS get MAC disease.

macrophages

a type of white blood cell that ingests foreign material; found in the alveoli of the lungs.

Mantoux method

a skin test performed by intradermally injecting 0.1 mL of PPD tuberculin solution into the volar or dorsal surface of the forearm. This is the recommended method for tuberculin skin testing.

Medical Doctor/Doctor of Osteopathy MD/DO

Medical Doctor or Doctor of Osteopathy

multiple drug resistance MDR

multiple drug resistance

multidrug-resistant latent TB infection MDR LTBI

latent tuberculosis infection caused by a multi-drug resistant isolate of MTB. Contacts of a confirmed MDR TB case may be treated for 6 months or observed without treatment. Immunocompromised contacts (e.g., persons who are HIV infected) should be treated for 12 months. All persons with suspected MDR LTBI should be followed for 2 years regardless of the treatment regimen.

multidrug-resistant tuberculosis MDR TB

TB disease caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* organisms that are resistant to more than one anti-TB drug. Usually MDR TB is defined as resistant to at least isoniazid and rifampin. It is more difficult to treat than drug-susceptible TB.

mediastinal

pertaining to the space in the thoracic cavity behind the sternum and in between the two pleural sacs containing the lungs.

medical conditions		conditions such as HIV infections, substance abuse; recent infection with <i>M. tuberculosis</i> ; chest radiograph findings suggestive of previous TB; diabetes mellitus; renal disease; intestinal bypass or gastrectomy; chronic malabsorption syndromes; or low body weight.
meningeal TB		a highly dangerous and difficult-to-diagnose form of TB disease with infectious invasion of the tissues covering the brain. Often indolent but uniformly fatal if untreated, at times it is diagnosed too late to save the patient's life or prevent permanent disability.
miliary TB		indicates the spread of TB through the blood and lymphatic system whereby the bacteria colonize an extrapulmonary site and manifest an infection.
mycobacterium other than tuberculosis	MOTT	mycobacteria other than those comprising the <i>M. tuberculosis complex</i> . Also known as NTM, these bacteria may cause pulmonary disease resembling TB; however, it is not usually spread from person to person.
moxifloxacin		a fluoroquinolone used as a second-line agent in the treatment of TB.
Masters Degree in Public Health	MPH	Masters Degree in Public Health
<i>M. tuberculosis</i> or <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	<i>Mtb</i>	A type of tuberculosis mycobacteria; gram-positive bacterium that causes tuberculosis. It is sometime called the tubercle bacillus.
<i>Mycobacterium africanum</i>	<i>M. africanum</i>	A type of tuberculous mycobacteria, closely related to <i>M. tuberculosis</i> , that can cause a disease similar to TB in humans; it is very rare in the United States.
<i>Mycobacterium avium</i>	<i>M. avium</i>	A nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) causing tuberculosis in domestic fowl and other birds. This bacterium can cause opportunistic infections in immunocompromised persons; often disseminated infections.
<i>Mycobacterium bovis</i>	<i>M. bovis</i>	A type of tuberculous mycobacteria; bovine variety of the tubercle bacillus which commonly infects not only cattle, but a wide variety of wild mammals such as elk, lions, and badgers. Before the pasteurization of milk became common practice, these mycobacteria were often spread to humans through contaminated milk.

Human disease due to *M. bovis* still occurs in places where unpasteurized dairy products are available for human consumption.

<i>Mycobacterium canetti</i>	<i>M. canetti</i>	A type of tuberculous mycobacteria that forms smooth colonies on culture; can cause disease in humans.
<i>Mycobacterium gordonae</i>	<i>M. gordonae</i>	A type of nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM).
<i>Mycobacterium intracellulare</i>	<i>M. intracellulare</i>	A nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) found in lung lesions and sputum of humans; may cause bone and tendon-sheath lesions in rabbits; some strains are pathogenic for mice.
<i>Mycobacterium kansasii</i>	<i>M. kansasii</i>	A nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM); the second most common NTM pulmonary disease in the United States.
<i>Mycobacterium microti</i>	<i>M. microti</i>	A type of tuberculous mycobacteria that causes generalized tuberculosis; however, does not cause diseases in humans.

N

N95 respirator		a particular types of disposable particulate respirator. Particulate respirators are also known as "air-purifying respirators" because they protect by filtering particles out of the air you breathe. The N95 respirators are certified to remove 95% or more of the TB infected particles from the air inhaled by the person wearing the N95 respirator provided it is fit properly.
nucleic acid amplification	NAA	a laboratory method used to target and amplify a single DNA or RNA sequence for detecting and identifying (typically) a microorganism. NAA tests for <i>M. tuberculosis</i> complex are sensitive and specific; they can accelerate confirmation of pulmonary TB disease.
nelfinavir		an inhibitor of HIV-1 protease. It is used in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.
nevirapine		a nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor of the human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1). It is used in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.

National Institutes of Health	NIH	National Institutes of Health.
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.
nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors	NNRTI	antiretroviral agents used for the treatment of HIV infection.
Nurse Practitioner	NP	Nurse Practitioner.
nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors	NRTI	antiretroviral agents used to suppress the reproduction of the HIV virus.
Nontuberculous mycobacteria	NTM	mycobacteria other than those comprising the <i>M. tuberculosis complex</i> . NTM may cause pulmonary disease resembling TB; however, NTM are NOT usually spread from person to person.
Nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitors	NtRTI	Antiretroviral agents used for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.

O

opportunistic infection	OI	opportunistic infection.
Occupational Safety and Health Administration	OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration.
osteomyelitis		an infection of bone or bone marrow with a propensity for progression, usually caused by pyogenic bacteria or mycobacteria. By definition osteomyelitis is inflammation of the bone and marrow, but, since it is always caused by an infection, it implies an infection.
Over the Counter (medications)	OTC	drugs, vitamins or dietary supplements that can be purchased without a prescription.

P

Physician's Assistant	PA	Physician's Assistant.
palpating		a light feathery touch with the fingertips to feel for any induration. A sweeping motion is used to search the

		forearm for the indurated reaction.
paradoxical reaction		see IRIS. A temporary exacerbation of symptoms, signs, or radiographic manifestations.
para-amino salicylic acid	PAS	An oral agent used in treatment of drug-resistant tuberculosis.
pathogenesis		The origin and development of disease.
primary care provider	PCP	primary care provider
polymerase chain reaction	PCR	The first practical system for in vitro amplification of DNA and, as such, one of the most important recent developments in molecular medicine.
peripheral neuropathy		Injury to the nerves that supply sensation to the arms and legs, causing a tingling sensation or a weakened sense of touch in the hands and feet.
Public Health	PH	Public Health
Public Health Agency	PHA	Public Health Agency
pharmacokinetics		characteristic interactions of a drug and the body in terms of its absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion.
Pharmacy Doctorate	PharmD	Doctoral degree in Pharmacy
Protected Health Information	PHI	personal health information that is protected by the HIPAA act.
protease inhibitors	PI	antiretroviral agents used for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.
pleural effusion		the collection of fluid (including blood) in the pleural space.
purified protein derivative	PPD	components of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> in a concentrated liquid culture medium, subsequently capable of eliciting an immune response to persons previously exposed to <i>M. tuberculosis</i> .

PPD skin test	PPD skin test	PPD skin test - a tuberculin skin test (see purified protein derivative [PPD])
primary infection		clinical illness directly following infection with <i>M. tuberculosis</i> . It is common among children up to 4 years of age and among immunocompromised persons. Although primary tuberculosis may be severe and disseminated, it is not generally associated with high-level transmissibility.
Primary TB	Primary TB	Complication of the initial infection with <i>M. tuberculosis</i> . Occurs commonly in children or in immunocompromised hosts. Primary TB is characterized by intrathoracic adenopathy, mid- and lower lung zone infiltrates and the absence of cavitation.
personal respiratory protection	PRP	special masks designed to filter out droplet nuclei; used in health care facilities and other settings where TB may be spread.
pulmonary TB		active TB disease that occurs in the lungs, usually producing a cough that lasts 3 weeks or longer. Most active TB disease is pulmonary.
pyridoxine		Vitamin B6.
Pyrazinamide	PZA	a drug used to treat TB disease, usually during the initial phase of treatment; should not be given to pregnant women.
Q		
QuantiFERON®-TB Gold	QFT-G	an IGRA test to measure the patient's immune reactivity to <i>M. tuberculosis</i> . This test was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2005.
QuantiFERON®-TB Gold In-Tube	QFT-IT	The "In-Tube" collection system was approved by the FDA in 2007 as a refinement of the QFT-G test. It enables whole blood to be drawn directly into pre-coated collection tubes, simplifying the testing procedure.
QuantiFERON®-TB	QFT-TB	the first interferon- γ release assay (IGRA) approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for diagnosing TB infection. QFT measures the immune reactivity of a patient's blood specimen to <i>M. tuberculosis</i> . This test was approved by the FDA in 2001.

R

radiography	the diagnostic imaging techniques (including plain-film chest radiographs and computerized tomography) that rely on degrees of X-radiation transmission related to differences in tissue densities.	
reactivation	The first time a person becomes infected with TB is known as the primary infection. In most cases this is suppressed by the body's immune system, and results in no disease, a condition also known as LTBI. As time goes on, in some cases comorbidities develop, and suppression mechanisms fail. When LTBI develops into active TB, this is known as reactivation.	
resistant bacteria	resistant bacteria – bacteria that can no longer be killed by an antibiotic at the concentration that is normally administered	
rifampin	RIF	a first-line agent for treatment of all forms of TB. Rifampin is an essential component of all short-course regimens.
rifabutin	RBN	A TB drug closely related to rifampin (RIF). It is used in the treatment of all forms of TB caused by organisms that are known or presumed to be susceptible to this agent. The drug is generally reserved for patients who are receiving any medication having unacceptable interaction with RIF or have experienced intolerance to RIF.
rifamycin		a class of drugs that include rifampin, rifabutin, and rifapentine.
RIPE therapy	RIPE	first line TB treatment consisting of four drugs, rifampin, isoniazid, pyrazinamide, and ethambutol
ritonavir		An inhibitor of HIV-1 protease. It is used in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.
Registered Nurse	RN	Registered Nurse
rifapentene	RPT	rifapentene

Respiratory Therapy	RT	Respiratory Therapy
RTMCC	RTMCC	Regional Training and Medical Consultation Center
S		
saquinavir		an inhibitor of HIV-1 protease. It is used in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.
secondary (TB) case		a new case of TB disease that is attributed to recent (i.e., <2 years) transmission as part of a scenario under investigation. Technically, all cases are secondary, in the sense that they arise from other cases that are contagious.
silicosis		a form of lung disease resulting from occupational exposure to and inhalation of silica dust over a period of years usually associated with concurrent tobacco use; characterized by slowly progressive fibrosis of the lungs, results in impairment of lung function.
skin-test conversion		a negative tuberculin skin test reaction in a person who undergoes repeat skin testing, which increases in reaction size by ≥ 10 mm within 2 years is considered a skin-test conversion and is indicative of recent infection with <i>M. tuberculosis</i> .
streptomycin	SM	an aminoglycoside used as a second-line agent in the treatment of TB. SM may cause hearing problems, and should not be given to pregnant women.
smear		a laboratory technique for preparing a specimen so bacteria can be visualized microscopically. Material from the specimen is spread onto a glass slide (and typically dried and stained). Smear, stain, and microscopy methods for mycobacteria are specific to this genus (see AFB). The slide can be scanned by light or fluorescent high-power microscopy. These methods require ongoing quality assurance for prompt and reliable results. The results for sputum AFB smears typically are reported as numbers of AFB per high-powered microscopy field, or else as a graded result, from no AFB to 4+ AFB. The quantity of stained organisms is associated with degree of infectiousness.
sputum		mucus containing secretions coughed up from within the lungs. Tests of sputum (e.g., smear and culture) can

tuberculin skin test	TST	The Mantoux tuberculin skin test is used to detect TB infection. In the United States, it is performed by using a 27-gauge needle and syringe to inject 0.1 ml containing 5 tuberculin units of purified protein derivative (PPD) between the layers of the skin (intradermally), usually on the forearm; the reaction to this test, the induration (palpable hardened area), is measured 48 to 72 hours after the injection and is classified as positive or negative depending on the size of the induration and the patient's risk factors for TB.
tuberculin unit	TU	A measure of purified protein derivative used to stimulate an immune response to <i>M. tuberculosis</i> .
tubercle bacilli		another name for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> organisms, which cause TB disease.
tuberculin		tuberculin or PPD – a liquid that is injected under the skin on the lower part of the arm during a TB skin test. It is used to determine whether a person has a TB infection.
two-step (tuberculin) skin test		a procedure used for baseline skin testing of persons who will periodically receive TSTs (e.g., health-care workers or residents of long-term care facilities) to reduce the likelihood of mistaking a boosted reaction for a new infection. If an initial TST result is classified as negative, a second test is given 1 to 3 weeks later. If the reaction to the second TST is positive, it probably represents a boosted reaction, indicating that the infection was most likely in the past and not recent. If the second TST is also negative, the person is classified as not being infected. Two-step skin testing has no place in contact investigations or in other circumstances in which ongoing transmission of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> is suspected.
U-V		
virulence		the ability of any agent of infection to produce disease. The virulence of a microorganism (such as a bacterium or virus) is associated with the severity of the disease it is capable of causing.
vitamin B6		also known as pyridoxine. It is often co-administered with isoniazid (INH) to prevent peripheral neuropathy and central nervous system side effects of INH.

W-Z

World Health Organization

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extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis

XDR TB

XDR TB is defined as disease caused by infection with a TB strain that is resistant to INH and RIF (MDR TB) PLUS added resistance to any one of the fluoroquinolone antibiotics (e.g., ciprofloxacin, moxifloxacin or levofloxacin) AND at least one of the three injectable drugs, (i.e. amikacin, kanamycin or capreomycin).

Ziehl-Neelsen or Kinyoun

Methods for staining acid-fast bacteria; acid-fast organisms appear red, other tissue elements light blue; basic fuchsin dye.