

## Appendix 3 CDC Case Definition

**TB Surveillance** - For the purposes of surveillance, a case of TB is defined on the basis of laboratory and/or clinical evidence of active disease due to *M. tuberculosis* complex.

### **Laboratory Case Definition**

Isolation of *M. tuberculosis* complex from a clinical specimen. The use of rapid-identification techniques for *M. tuberculosis* performed on a culture from a clinical specimen, such as a DNA probes and high-pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC), is acceptable under this criterion.

**OR**

Demonstration of *M. tuberculosis* from a clinical specimen by nucleic acid amplification (NAA) test. NAA tests must be accompanied by cultures of mycobacterial species. However, for surveillance purposes, CDC will accept results obtained from NAA tests that are approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and used according to the approved product labeling on the package insert.

**OR**

Demonstration of acid-fast bacilli (AFB) in a clinical specimen when a culture has not been or cannot be obtained; historically this criterion has been most commonly used to diagnose TB in the postmortem setting.

### **Clinical Case Definition**

In the absence of laboratory confirmation of *M. tuberculosis* complex after a diagnostic process has been completed, persons must have all of the following criteria for clinical TB:

Evidence of TB infection based on a positive tuberculin skin test

**AND**

One of the following:

- (1) Signs and symptoms compatible with current TB disease, such as an abnormal, unstable (worsening or improving) chest radiograph, or
- (2) Clinical evidence of current disease (e.g., fever, night sweats, cough, weight loss, hemoptysis)

**AND**

Current treatment with two or more anti-TB medications

