Massachusetts Tuberculosis Risk Assessment User Guide

Age (among adults) is not considered in this risk assessment. However, younger adults have more years of expected life during whic

Patients with any of the following symptoms, that are otherwise unexplained, should be evaluated for active TB disease: cough for more than 2-3 weeks, fevers, night sweats, weight loss, hemoptysis.

Decision to test requires commitment to connect patients with evaluation and treatment resources

Because testing of persons at low risk of latent TB infection should not be done, persons who test positive for latent TB infection should generally be treated once active TB disease has been ruled out with a symptom screen, chest radiograph and, if indicated, sputum smears, cultures, and nucleic acid amplification testing. However, dinicians should not be compelled to treat low risk person with a positive test for latent TB infection.

Emphasis on short course for treatment of latent TB infection

Shorter regimens for treating latent TB infection have been shown to be more likely to be completed and the 3 month 12-dose regimen has been shown to be as effective as 9 months of isoniazid. Use of these shorter regimens is preferred in most patients. However, drug-drug interactions and contact to drug resistant TB are frequent reasons these regimens cannot be used.

Shorter duration latent TB infection treatment regimens

Medication	Frequency	Duration
Rifampin	Daily	4 months
Isoniazid + rifapentine*	Weekly	12 weeks

^{*}MDPH recommends DOT for this regimen.

Report latent TB infection to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Latent TB infection and Active/Suspected Active TB disease are reportable conditions (105 CMR 300.000). Case reporting forms are on-line: www.mass.gov/tuberculosis

Document Risk Assessment and latent TB infection test results in the [electronic] medical record

Results ideally should be easily retrievable from the medical record.

BCG = Bacillus Calmette-Guerin; DOT = Directly observed therapy; IGRA = Interferon gamma release assay (e.g., QuantiFERON-TB Gold, T-SPOT.TB); LTBI = latent TB infection; MDPH = Massachusetts Department of Public Health; TST = tuberculin skin test