



Wisconsin State  
Laboratory of Hygiene

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



# Use of the Cepheid GeneXpert® to Release Patients from Airborne Isolation



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Diseases

Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene



- A.** We have a GeneXpert<sup>®</sup> in our lab and use the MTB/RIF assay
- B.** We have a GeneXpert<sup>®</sup> in our lab but do not use the MTB/RIF assay
- C.** We don't have a GeneXpert<sup>®</sup>
- D.** MTB WHAT???????????



# Removing Patients from AII

- Traditionally used 3 sputum smears collected early morning
  - Took a long time: average 5-7 days in isolation
  - Not sensitive 50-80%
  - Not specific 70-90% (depending on NTM and TB prevalence)
- Current guideline
  - 3 sputums collected 8-24 hr apart, with at least one being an early morning specimen



# Problems with Isolation

- Average 5-7 days in isolation for TB
- Limited number of isolation rooms
- Patients seen less by HCWs
- 8 fold increase in adverse effects
- Have a negative perspective of their care
- Delays in getting procedures performed
- Most patients admitted into isolation do not have TB



## GeneXpert<sup>®</sup> System

Cepheid, Sunnyvale, CA

RT-PCR, < 2 hours



# GeneXpert<sup>®</sup> MTB/RIF Assay

- Automated system for identification of *M. tuberculosis* complex and detection of rifampin resistance
- Decontamination, digestion, DNA extraction, amplification, and detection in a single cartridge
- Integrated positive control assures that a negative result is not due to NAA inhibitors in the specimen
- Results in ~2 hours
- Minimal hands on manipulation- technically simple
- Platform is random access



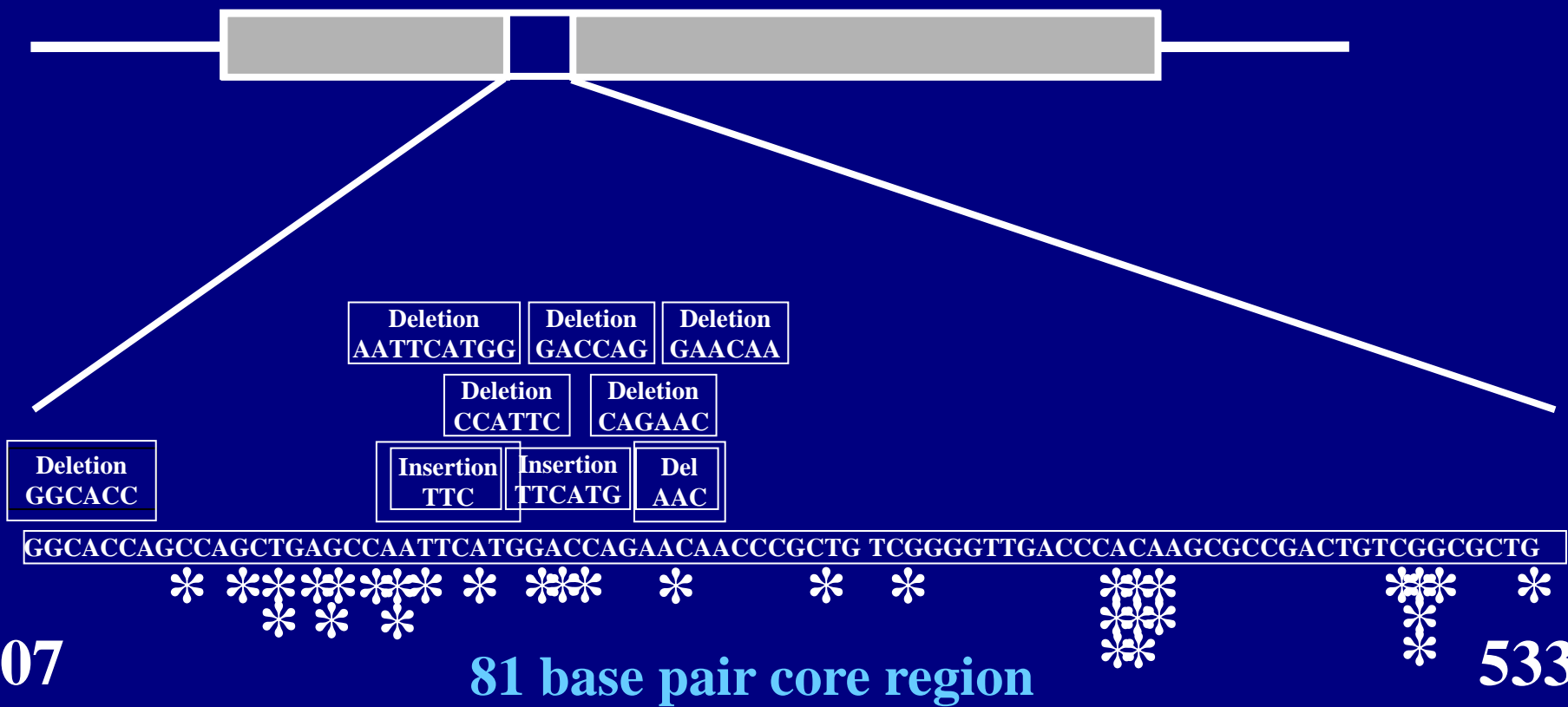
# GeneXpert

- Target: rpoB gene
- Nested PCR and molecular beacon technology
- Same segment of the rpoB gene is used for detection of both M. tb complex and rifampin resistance
- PCR amplifies a small region relevant to rifampin resistance
- Uses 5 probes to assess for mutations



# Genetics of Rifampin Resistance in *M. tuberculosis*

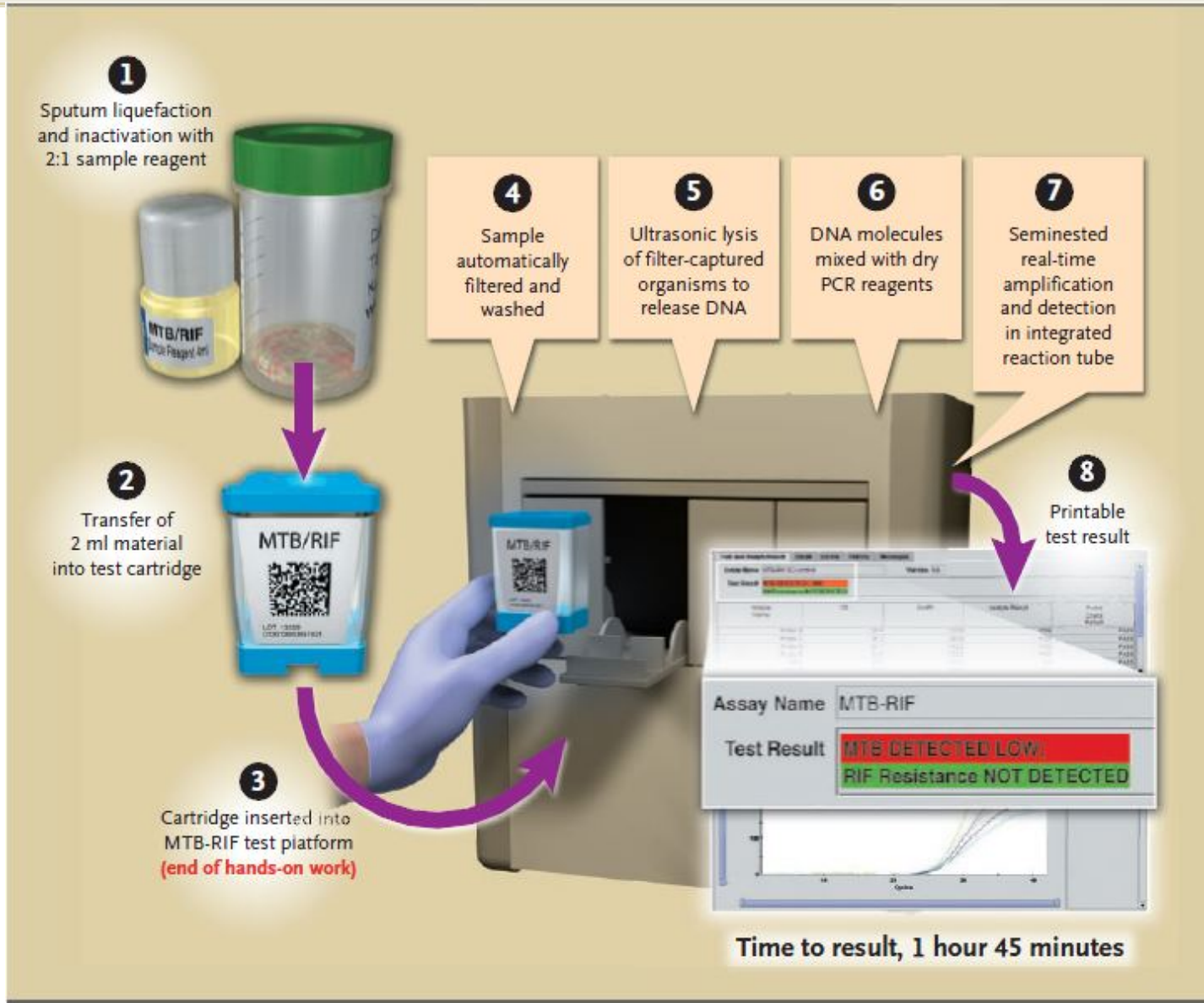
*rpoB*





# Specimen Requirements

- Quality specimen and adequate volume are critical
- Expecterated or induced sputum
- Specimen requirements may vary among laboratories
  - One specimen for both Xpert and smear/culture, 5-10 ml
    - Allows interpretation of Xpert in conjunction with AFB smear result
  - Two specimens
    - One for Xpert, 1-2 ml
    - Separate specimens for smear/culture

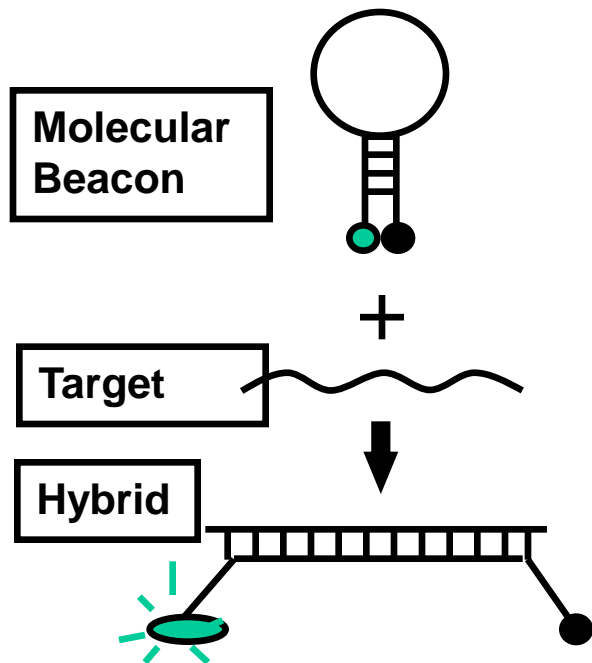




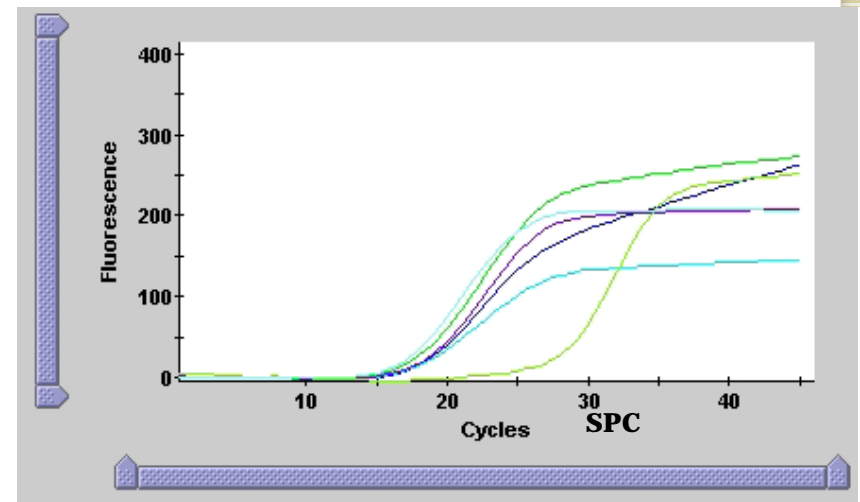
# MTB/Rif Assay design

A  
 5' - GCACCAGCCAGCTGAGCCAATTCATGGACCAGAACAAACCCGCTGTCTGGGGTTGACCCACAAGCGCCGACTGTCGGCGCTG - 3'  
 3' - CGTGGTCGGTCGACTCGGTAAAGTACCTGGTCTTGTGGGCGACAGCCCAACTGGGTGTTTCGCGGCTGACAGCCGCGAC - 5'  
B

The MTB assay target is the 81 bp region (RRDR) of the rpoB gene.



Each probe is labeled with a different fluorophore, permitting simultaneous detection of the presence of wild type.



Example of Rif-Sensitive Profile – 5 probes are positive



# Cepheid GeneXpert<sup>®</sup> Assay Performance

- **Limit of detection – 131 CFU/ml**
- ***M. tuberculosis* viability – minus 8 log**
- **107 clinical specimens/suspicion of TB – Vietnam**
  - **100% - 29/29 AFB smear + / Culture +**
  - **84.6% - 33/39 AFB smear - /solid Culture +**
  - **71.7% - 38/53 AFB smear - / solid & broth Culture**

**Helb et al. JCM 48:229-237 (2010)**



# Reporting

- MTB Detected
- MTB Not Detected
- Invalid
  - Presence or absence of MTB could not be determined due to failure of the control
- Rifampin resistance detected
- Rifampin resistance not detected
- Rifampin resistance indeterminate



# Reporting

- May include interpretive comments
  - e.g. A result of MTB not detected indicates infectious TB is not likely. Make the decision to discontinue airborne infection isolation in conjunction with clinical data.
- Who to report to?
  - Health care provider
  - Infection preventionist
  - TB Control Program
  - Local Public Health



# Turn-around Time Expectations

- Will vary with how laboratory is structured and staffed
  - Xpert system available onsite and raw sputum tested----2-4 hr
  - Xpert system offsite and raw sputum tested
    - Factor in transport time plus 2-4 hr
  - Xpert performed in the Mycobacteriology lab using processed sediment ----5 – 24 hr



FDA News Release

# **New data shows test can help physicians remove patients with suspected TB from isolation earlier**

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

## **Revised Device Labeling for the Cepheid Xpert MTB/RIF Assay for Detecting *Mycobacterium tuberculosis***

Division of Microbiology Devices, Office of In Vitro Diagnostics and Radiological Health, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration



# Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing and A.I.I. Decisions

- In February, 2015, the FDA approved a change in the package insert for the **GeneXpert**® to reflect expanded claims related to A.I.I.\*

Specifically:

*... results using this assay on “either one or two sputum specimens” can be used **as an alternative to examination of serial acid-fast stained sputum smears** to aid in the decision to discontinue A.I.I. for patients with **suspected** pulmonary TB.*

\* CDC. MMWR, 2/26/2015



## Sensitivity of TB PCR, initial specimens on culture-positive TB patients

	<b>Smear Positive</b>	<b>Smear Negative</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Respiratory</b>	172/178 (96.6%)	17/27 (62.9%)	189/205 (92.1%)
<b>Non-respiratory</b>	18/18 (100%)	1/6 (16.6%)	19/24 (79.1%)
<b>Total</b>	190/196 (96.9%)	18/33 (54.5%)	208/229 = 90.8%

9/2010 to 6/2015



Consensus statement on the use of  
Cepheid Xpert MTB/RIF<sup>®</sup> assay in making  
decisions to discontinue airborne infection  
isolation in healthcare settings

## Purpose:

To provide guidance on the use of the Xpert to discontinue airborne infection isolation (A.I.I.) for persons with suspected, infectious pulmonary tuberculosis (TB)

[http://www.tbcontrollers.org/docs/resources/NTCA\\_AP\\_HL\\_GeneXpert\\_Consensus\\_Statement\\_Final.pdf](http://www.tbcontrollers.org/docs/resources/NTCA_AP_HL_GeneXpert_Consensus_Statement_Final.pdf)



# The Statement: What it *IS*

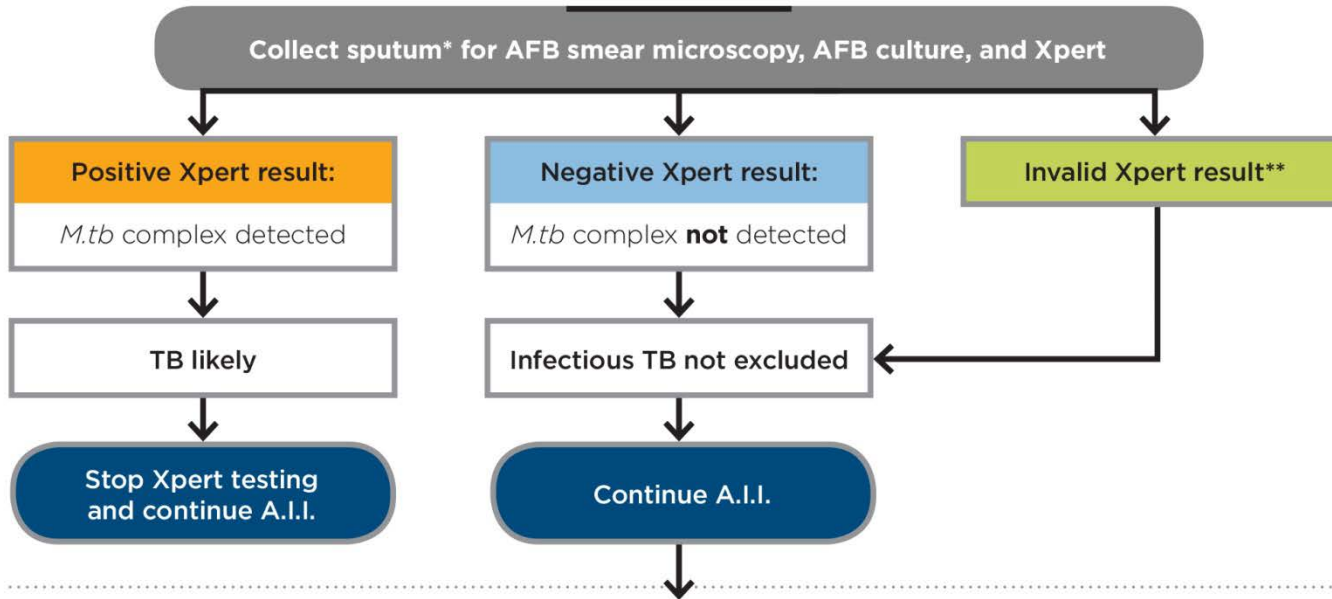
- Recommendations on how to interpret the GeneXpert<sup>®</sup> MTB/RIF results
- A document
  - stressing the difference between diagnosis of TB and infectiousness of TB
  - providing easily followed instructions/protocols for sputum induction
  - containing a customizable flowchart for use in hospital policies and procedures manuals or as a decision-making tool
- A reminder of the importance of working with public health TB programs and the public health labs



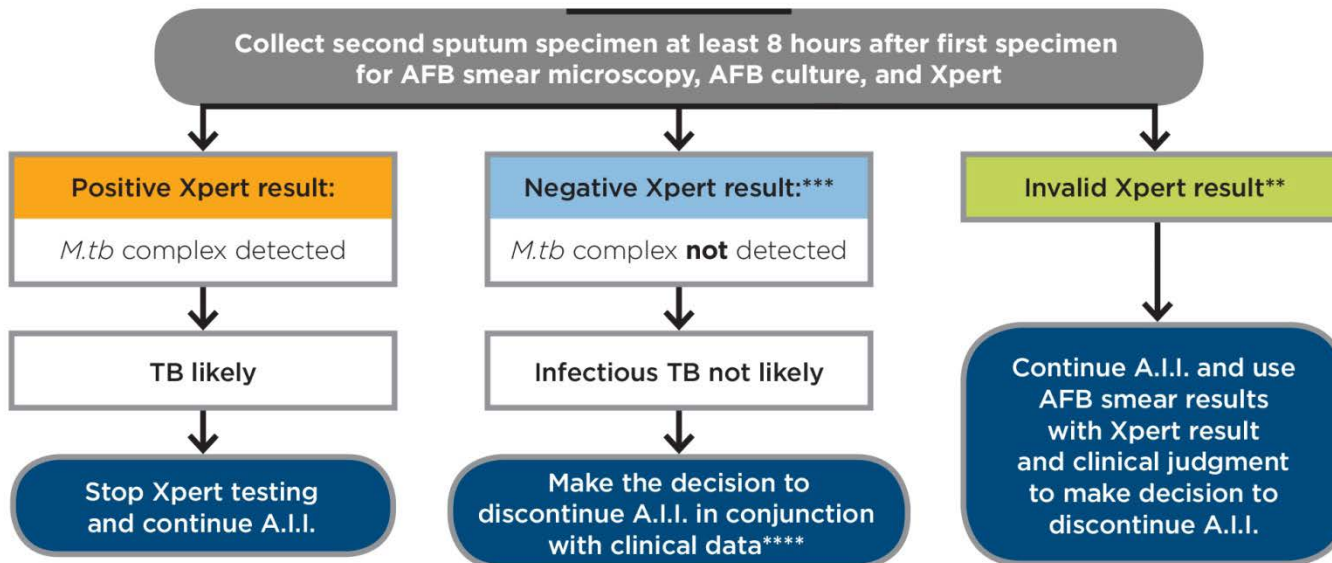
# The Statement: What it is ***NOT***

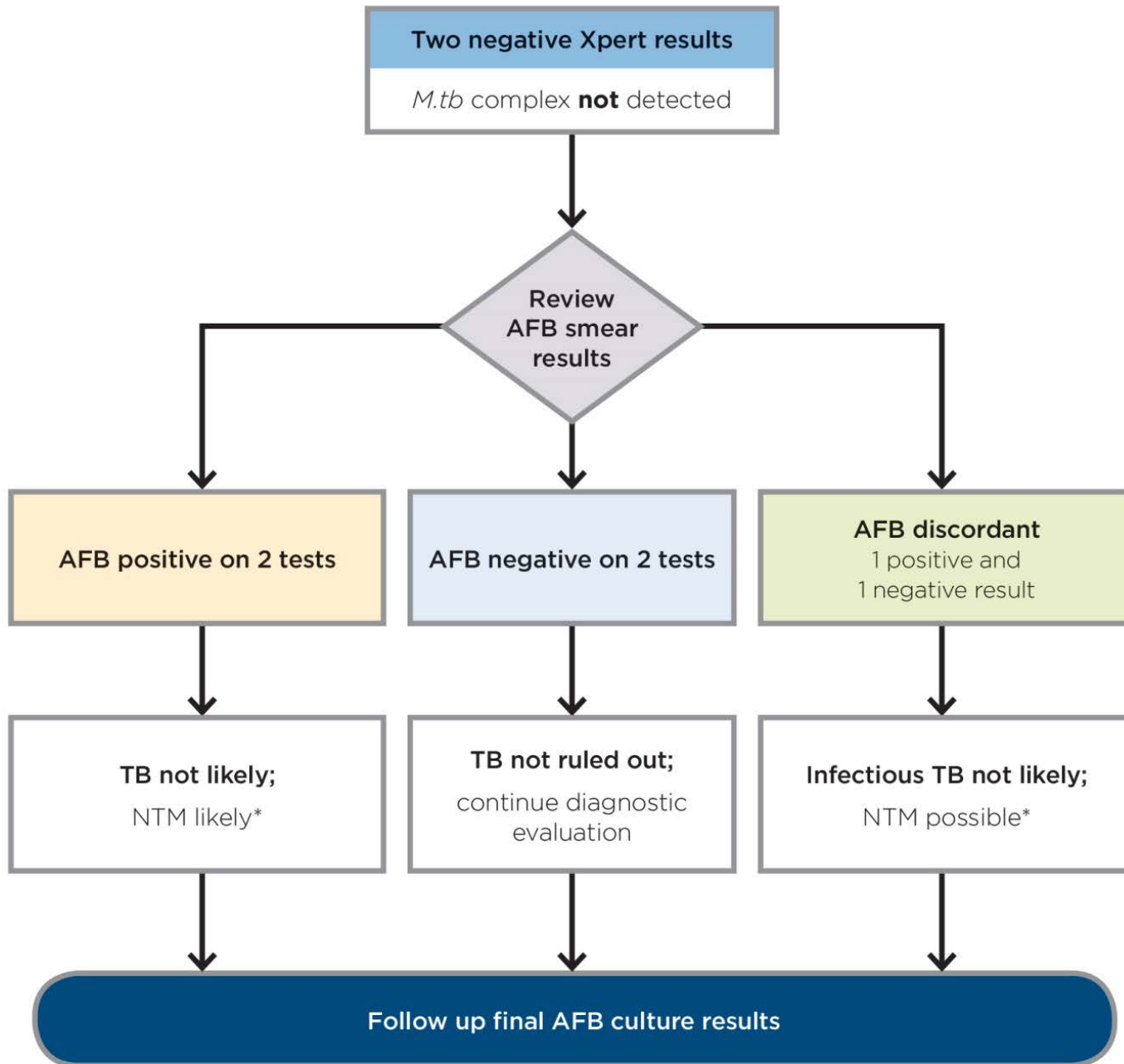
- It is ***NOT*** a diagnostic algorithm
  - sputum smears and cultures are essential for identification of the organism, drug susceptibility testing, and genotyping
- NAA testing ***should not be used to monitor response to treatment or to release a newly confirmed TB patient from A.I.I.***
- It is ***NOT*** an endorsement of Xpert or of any specific product
  - reflects new FDA approval of NAA technology that applies to the Cepheid *Xpert MTB/RIF*<sup>®</sup> system *only* and for this specific indication
- It is ***NOT*** a rationale for delaying the start of empiric treatment when TB is suspected

## STEP 1.



## STEP 2.





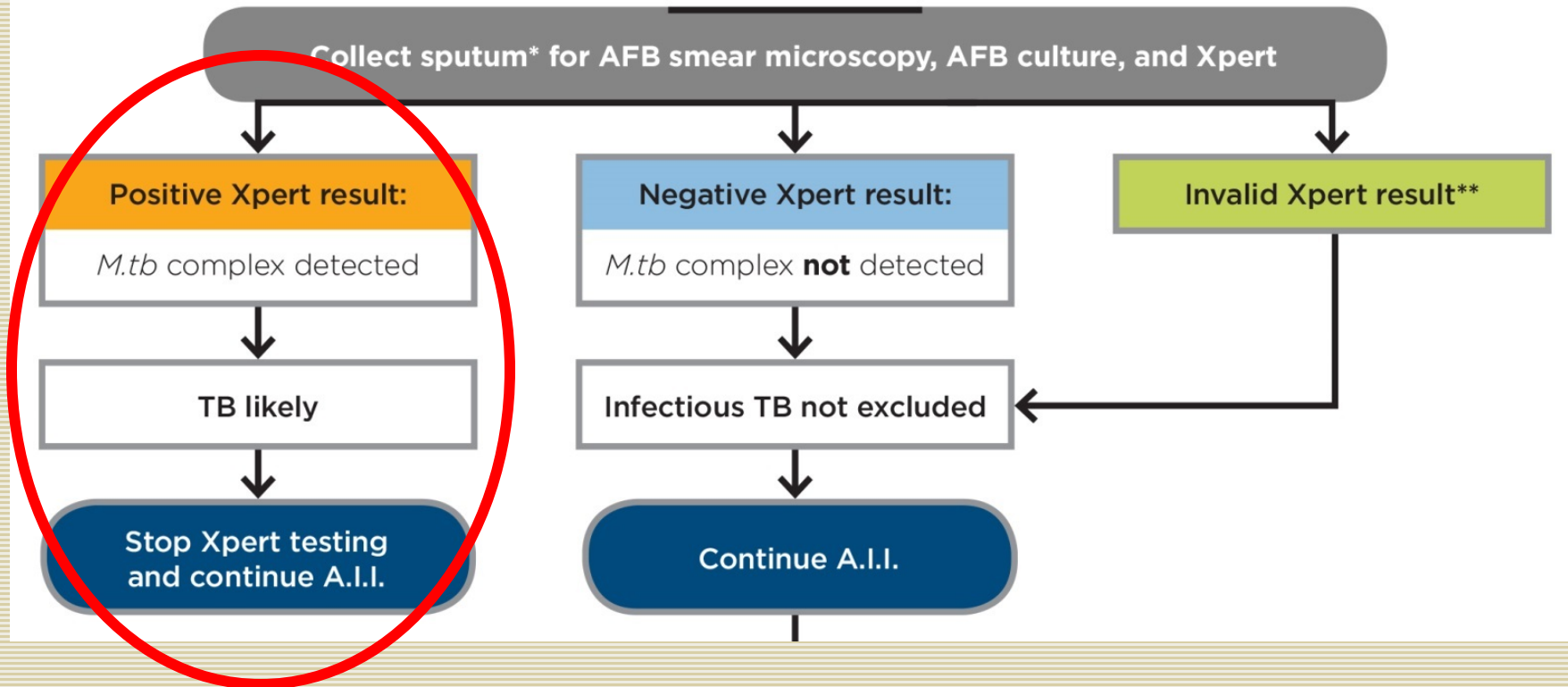




# Case 1

- 90 yr old man from the Philippines
- History of TB many years ago
- Hemoptysis with no other TB symptoms
- GeneXpert<sup>®</sup> Positive
  
- **Would you continue A.I.I.?**
  - **A. YES**
  - **B. NO**

# STEP 1.

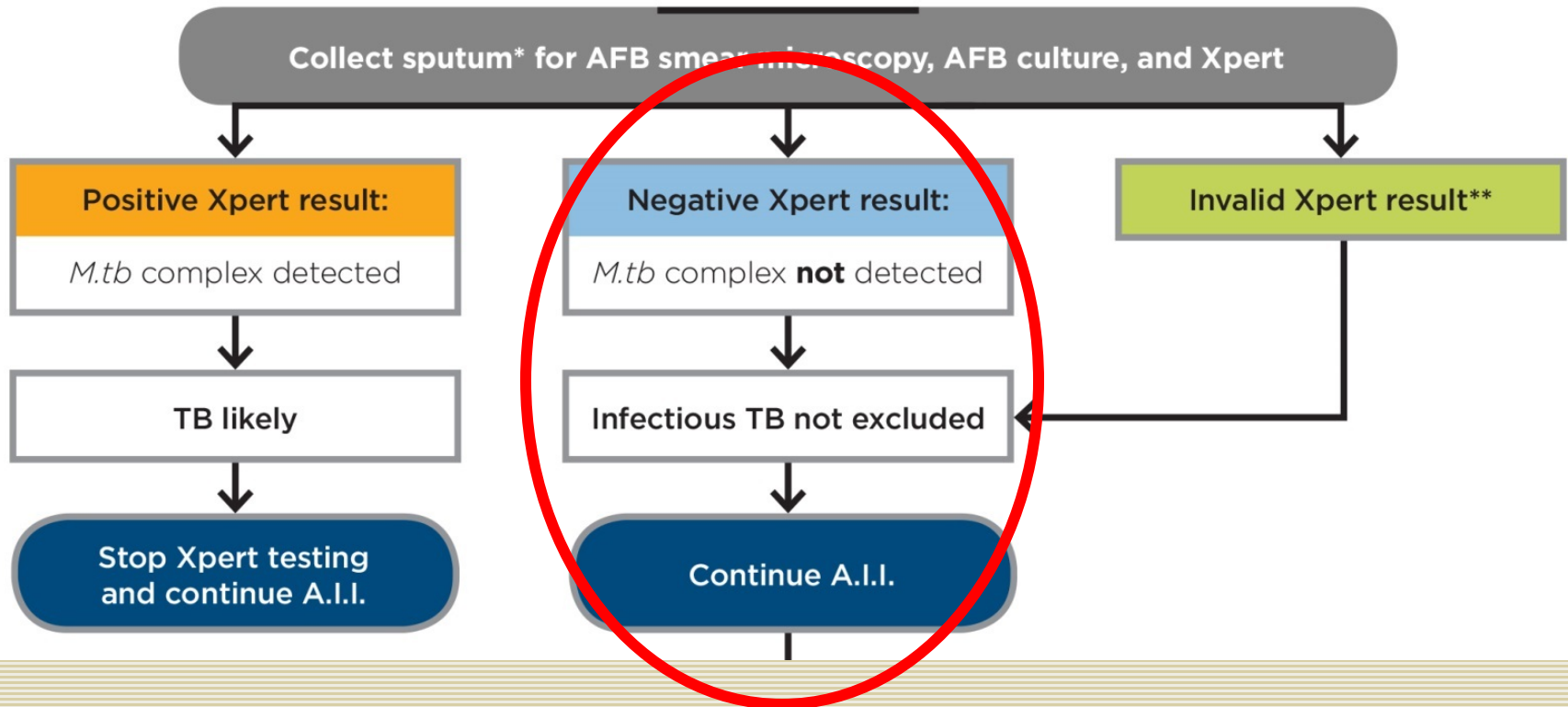




## Case 2

- 20 year old from Vietnam
- IGRA negative
- Calcifications in LUL consistent with granulomatous disease
- GeneXpert<sup>®</sup> negative on one sputum
- **Next step**
  - **A. Remove from isolation**
  - **B. Collect a 2<sup>nd</sup> sputum**
  - **C. Send him home**

# STEP 1.



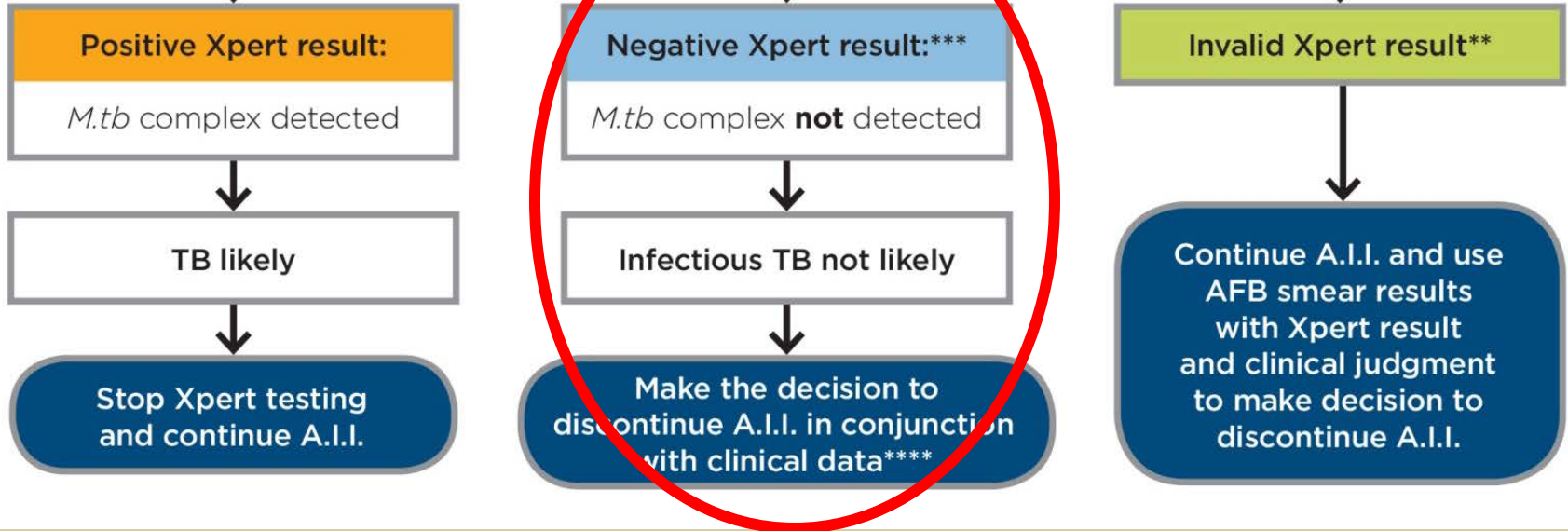


## Case 2

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Xpert NEGATIVE
  
- Discontinue isolation
  - YES
  - NO

## STEP 2.

Collect second sputum specimen at least 8 hours after first specimen for AFB smear microscopy, AFB culture, and Xpert





## Case 3

- 17 year old male from China
- IGRA positive
- CXR with LUL calcification consistent with granuloma disease
- Nonproductive cough
- Xpert negative
- **Next step**
  - **A. Remove from isolation**
  - **B. Collect a 2<sup>nd</sup> sputum**
  - **C. Send him home**

# Case 3

## STEP 1.

Collect sputum\* for AFB smear microscopy, AFB culture, and Xpert

Positive Xpert result:

*M.tb* complex detected

TB likely

Stop Xpert testing  
and continue A.I.I.

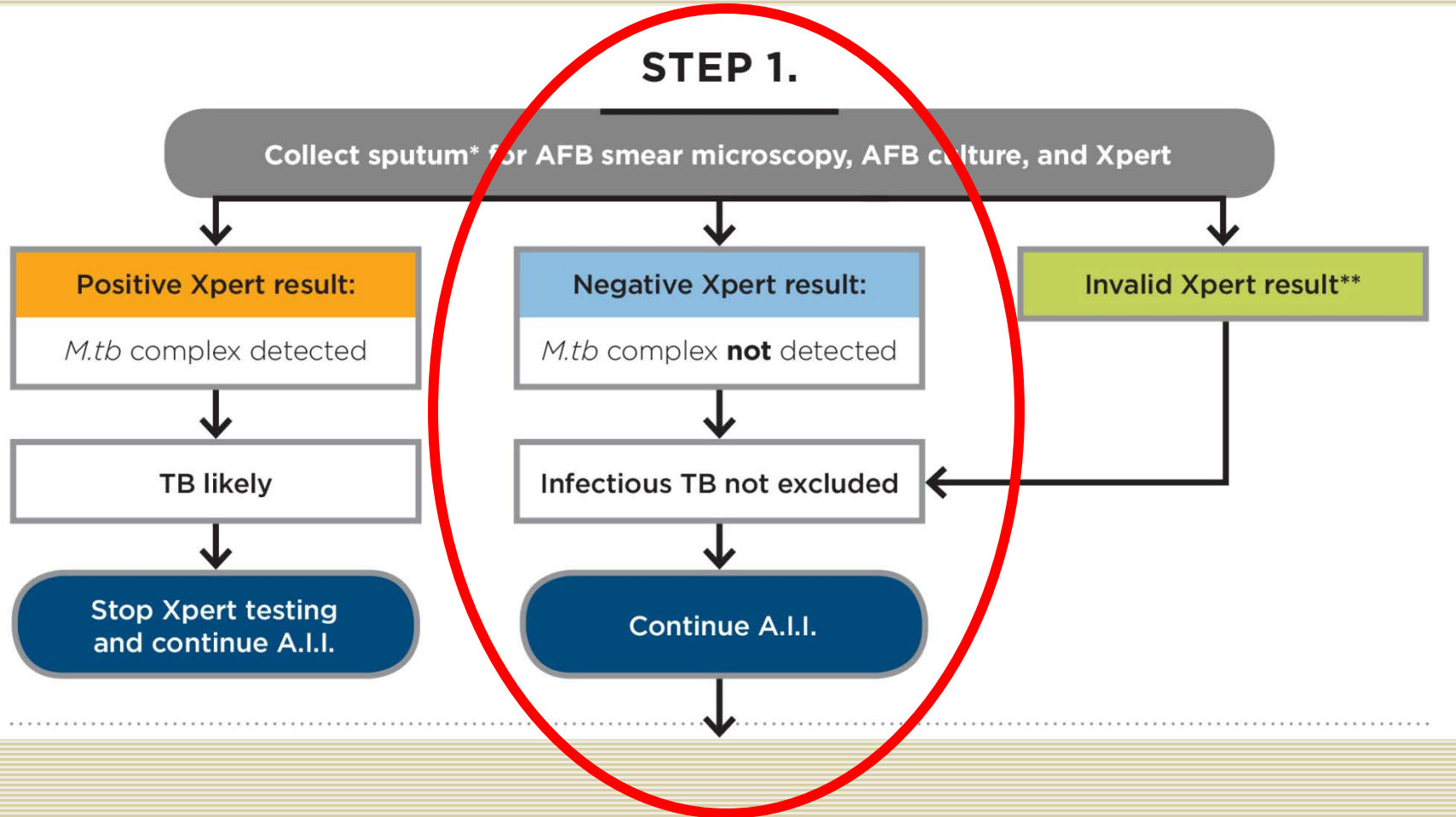
Negative Xpert result:

*M.tb* complex **not** detected

Infectious TB not excluded

Continue A.I.I.

Invalid Xpert result\*\*







## Case 3

- Second Xpert negative
  
- Discontinue Isolation?
  - Yes
  - No

# Case 3

## STEP 2.

Collect second sputum specimen at least 8 hours after first specimen for AFB smear microscopy, AFB culture, and Xpert

Positive Xpert result:

*M.tb* complex detected

TB likely

Stop Xpert testing and continue A.I.I.

Negative Xpert result:\*\*\*

*M.tb* complex **not** detected

Infectious TB not likely

Make the decision to discontinue A.I.I. in conjunction with clinical data\*\*\*\*

Invalid Xpert result\*\*

Continue A.I.I. and use AFB smear results with Xpert result and clinical judgment to make decision to discontinue A.I.I.



## Case 3

- What if he had hemoptysis instead of dry cough?
- What if it was winter time and everyone in dorm had a cough?



# Summary

- The Consensus Statement addresses use of GeneXpert<sup>®</sup> for release from A.I.I.
- It is not meant as a diagnostic algorithm
- Must be used in conjunction with patient's clinical data and risk factors
- Suspect TB patients are reportable to public health



# Acknowledgments

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