

# Screening Algorithm for Incarcerated Individuals in Chapter 89

## Designated Facilities

Perform symptom screening at intake\*

TB symptoms present? (cough  $\geq$  3 weeks, coughing up blood; weight loss; loss of appetite, lethargy/weakness, night sweats; or fever)

Yes

### Inmate Suspected with TB Disease (Symptomatic Upon Intake)

- Isolate inmate in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR)
- Perform chest x-ray and order sputum smear and culture within 72 hours; consider rapid PCR
- Perform TST
- Ensure thorough medical evaluation and provide treatment, if indicated
- If TB is suspected, report to local or regional health department.

No

Will likely be incarcerated seven or more days?

No

Done.

Yes

Documented negative TST or IGRA in the past 12 months?

Yes

Done. Repeat symptom screening and TB skin test annually (from the date of their last test).

No

Does patient have written documentation of a previous positive skin test or IGRA?

Yes

### Inmate Suspected with TB Disease (Asymptomatic and Abnormal CXR)

- Isolate inmate in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR)
- Report to local or regional health department
- Order sputum smear and culture within 72 hours; consider rapid PCR
- Ensure thorough medical evaluation and provide treatment, if indicated.

No

Administer TST or IGRA regardless of self-reported results

Is reaction positive?

No

Done. Repeat symptom screening and TB skin test annually.

Yes

Perform CXR within 72 hours

Abnormal

CXR result?

Normal

(Indicative of TB Disease)

- Educate patient on diagnosis of TB infection and offer treatment, if available.
- Repeat symptom screening annually.
- Perform chest x-ray **if** symptoms develop.

Created December 2021 Revised June 2023  
25 Tex. Admin. Code §97.173 (2004)

Tex. Health & Safety Code § 89.011 (Vernon 2015)

\*Note: TB symptom screening should be performed immediately for all new inmates.  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. MMWR 2006;55(No. RR-9): pg. 36.