

Dear Valued Client,

We are pleased to announce that effective starting April 15, 2026, the Mycobacteriology Laboratory will begin offering targeted next generation sequencing (tNGS) for comprehensive speciation and drug resistance testing of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (MTBC). The turnaround time for this assay is estimated to be 7-14 days and can be performed for the following sample types:

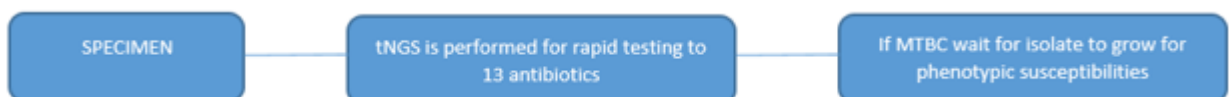
- Sputum Samples (both unprocessed and processed)
- Mycobacterial isolates

The tNGS assay will speciate most members of the MTBC and detect resistance-associated mutations across 13 antibiotics (rifampin, isoniazid, pyrazinamide, ethambutol, ethionamide, streptomycin, fluoroquinolones, kanamycin, amikacin, capreomycin, linezolid, clofazimine, and bedaquiline). When MTBC is suspected, both genotypic and phenotypic susceptibility testing are recommended to ensure comprehensive evaluation.

Requisition Instructions:

1. When submitting **sputum specimens** for culture, comprehensive identification, and appropriate molecular and phenotypic susceptibility testing, select:

- Section 5: AFB3 + TNGSR
- Section 6: APPRO



2. When submitting **isolates** for comprehensive identification and appropriate molecular and phenotypic susceptibility testing, select:

- Section 5: AFB 4
- Section 6: APPRO



If you have any questions, our Client Service team is available at 800.550.6227 or via email at ClinRefLabs@NJHealth.org.

Sincerely,

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