

A New Standard of Practice for TB Testing in Iowa

MTD—A rapid, amplified PCR test for the detection of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* from clinical specimens

- When AFB are observed on a respiratory sample—immediately send the remainder of the specimen to UHL. A concentrated specimen is preferred.
- The test can be performed on smear negatives in special cases. Consult with UHL when patients are showing signs & symptoms consistent with active tuberculosis, and smears are negative.
- The best specimen is a first morning sputum. Other acceptable specimens are bronch wash, tracheal aspirates or random sputums. For pediatric or other types of specimens please call UHL.
- The request form must include the name and birth date of the patient which is extremely important for the treatment of the patient.
- Contact UHL for transport instructions.
- In most cases, the turnaround time is 48 hours after receipt of the specimen at UHL.
- For testing information call Tony Chavez at UHL (319-335-4500).



University Hygienic Laboratory

102 Oakdale Campus, H101 OH
Iowa City, IA 52242-5002
319-335-4500 or 800-421-IOWA
www.uhl.uiowa.edu



Iowa Department of Public Health

Promoting and protecting the health of Iowans

TB Control Program

Program Manager: 515-281-7504

Nurse Consultant: 515-281-8636