

Gary M. Feldman, MD, FAAP, FABMG
Public Health Officer

Susan Harrington, MS, RD
Director, Department of Public Health

CRITERIA FOR DISCHARGE OF TB PATIENTS

I. Absence of High Risk* Individuals in the Home

- A. Patient has been started on appropriate therapy; **AND**
- B. Patient has had specimens collected for AFB smear and culture on 3 separate days; **AND**
- C. Patient is stable; **AND**
- D. The physician has established a plan for ongoing follow-up and treatment after discharge; **AND**
- E. If a patient is still smear positive, must agree to home isolation until cleared by Public Health
- F. Department of Public Health has reviewed and approved discharge.

II. High Risk Individuals in the Home or Going to High Risk Environment**

- A. Patient has been on appropriate therapy for at least two weeks; **AND**
- B. Patient has 3 consecutive negative sputum smears on separate days; **AND**
- C. Patient is stable; **AND**
- D. The physician has established a plan for ongoing follow-up and treatment after discharge with directly observed therapy (DOT) if needed; **AND**
- E. Department of Public Health has reviewed and approved discharge.

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- *** High risk individual is defined as a person who is highly susceptible to TB due to immunosuppression related to HIV, cancer, immunosuppressive therapy, or other medical conditions that compromise the person's immune system, or who is a child under 4 years of age.**
 - **** High risk environment includes congregate settings such as jails/prisons, long-term care facilities and inpatient treatment centers.**