



**RUHS – Public Health  
TB Control  
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## **CRITERIA FOR DISCHARGE OF TB PATIENTS**

### **I. Absence of High Risk Individuals in the Home**

- A. The patient has been started on appropriate therapy and is tolerating the medication; AND
- B. The patient has three (3) consecutive respiratory specimens, including at least one (1) collected early AM, or induced sputum, or BAL, collected at least eight (8) hours apart, that are AFB smear negative, AND
- C. The patient is stable; AND
- D. The physician has established a plan for the ongoing follow-up and treatment after discharge; AND
- E. If a patient is still smear positive, they must agree to home isolation until he/she is cleared by Public Health.
- F. Public Health has reviewed and approved the discharge.

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

- A. The patient has been on appropriate therapy for at least two (2) weeks, AND
- B. The patient has three (3) consecutive respiratory specimens, including at least one (1) collected early AM, or induced sputum, or BAL, collected at least eight (8) hours apart, that are AFB smear negative, AND
- C. The patient is stable, AND
- D. The physician has established a plan for the ongoing follow-up and treatment after discharge with directly observed therapy (DOT) if needed; AND
- E. Public Health has reviewed and approved the discharge.

### **III. MDR-TB Patients**

- A. Three (3) consecutive respiratory specimens collected on separate days, including at least one (1) collected early AM, or induced sputum, or BAL, are AFB smear negative, and no subsequent sputum specimen is smear positive.
- B. At least fourteen (14) daily doses of treatment for MDR-TB taken and tolerated by DOT;
- C. Clinical improvement; AND
- D. At least two (2) consecutive negative sputum cultures, without a subsequent positive culture, are required for patients going to a high-risk environment.
- E. Public Health has reviewed and approved the discharge.

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