

	Triaging	TB screening
What?	Screening for chronic cough	Asking about TB symptoms
Why?	To identify potentially infectious PTB patients To reduce transmission of TB in the clinic to other patients and staff	To diagnose patients with any type of TB To treat TB in the patient To prevent IRIS (Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome)
When?	On arrival at the clinic	At every consultation
By whom?	Triaging staff at front desk	Nurse or doctor
What do you ask?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Have you had a cough for more than two weeks?” 2. “Are you being investigated for TB?” 3. “Are you taking treatment for TB?” 	TB screening questionnaire (in ACR): Do you have the following symptoms or signs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Weight loss 2. Cough for more than 2 weeks 3. Night sweats for more than 2 weeks 4. Fever for more than 2 weeks 5. Swollen lymph nodes 6. Chest pains or other chest symptoms
What do you look for?	Patients who are coughing on arrival/in the waiting areas	Patients with signs/symptoms of any form of TB (including extra-pulmonary TB)
What next?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give the patient tissues • Educate on cough etiquette • Instruct patient to wait in a separate, well ventilated waiting area • Move the patient to the front of the queue • Make sure sputum specimens (for AFB smear & TB culture) are collected in a safe way 	Do the appropriate investigations, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sputum for AFB/TB culture - Chest X-ray - Lymph node aspirate - Abdominal ultrasound
What else?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give the patient a return date • Make sure the patient starts on TB treatment immediately if diagnosed • Make sure the patient completes TB treatment 	
Important issues:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure windows and doors are kept open • Make use of fans to direct airflow away from other patients and health care workers • Wear an N95 respirator when you are involved in sputum induction • Educate patients on TB, cough etiquette and infection control 	

