

10. Discharge of hospitalized patients with confirmed TB

For patients with confirmed TB, or those started on anti-TB treatment because of high clinical suspicion, discharge from inpatient settings requires approval by the LAC TB Control Program. For these patients, further NAATs should not be ordered beyond the initial diagnostic testing.

Discharge criteria still depend on the AFB smear status of the patient and the environment into which he/she will be discharged. Additional NAAT results for patients with confirmed TB will not contribute to decisions regarding hospital discharge or respiratory isolation. As in the past, discharges will be approved on a case-by-case basis by the LAC TB Control Program. Further information can be found in the LAC TB Control Program Discharge Guidelines (<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/tb/docs/discharge.pdf>).