

### **3. Patients for whom NAATs should be ordered**

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All patients initially evaluated for active pulmonary TB disease should have at least one NAAT performed as part of a comprehensive diagnostic evaluation. NAATs should not be performed in patients with a known recent diagnosis of TB disease (as evidenced by a prior positive NAAT or culture). Caution should be used when interpreting NAATs for patients with recently treated TB disease (which can cause false-positive results) or for patients currently receiving anti-TB treatment (which can cause false-negative results).

The role of NAATs to diagnose extrapulmonary TB is not yet clear. While a positive NAAT result can confirm the diagnosis of TB, the sensitivity of NAATs for extrapulmonary TB is not sufficient to exclude TB disease. With regards to Xpert, FDA approval was granted for testing raw or concentrated sputa and not extrapulmonary samples.