

## **9. Detection of rifampin resistance**

---

While most NAATs solely detect the presence or absence of *M. tuberculosis* complex, the Xpert assay also detects the presence of mutations associated with rifampin resistance. Because of the low prevalence of rifampin resistance among TB patients in LAC (approximately 2%), confirmatory testing of positive rifampin resistance results should always be performed with DNA sequencing (e.g., pyrosequencing) and traditional drug susceptibility testing. The LAC TB Control Program should be contacted to arrange for the performance of such DNA sequencing in partnership with the LAC Public Health Laboratory.

**A patient with any test result showing possible rifampin resistance should prompt immediate consultation with the LAC TB Control Program. Patients should be kept in airborne infection isolation pending such consultation.**