

# **Commercial products for preserving clinical specimens for the diagnosis of tuberculosis**

2017



**World Health  
Organization**

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WHO collaborating centre for the evaluation  
of new diagnostic technologies



# Technical Expert Group Meeting Report

Commercial products for preserving clinical specimens  
for the diagnosis of tuberculosis



2017

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Abbreviations

AFB	Acid-fast bacilli
CI	Confidence interval
DOI	Declaration of Interests
DR	Drug resistant
DST	Drug-susceptibility testing
FIND	Foundation for innovative new diagnostics
GLI	Global laboratory initiative
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
LJ	Löwenstein-Jensen medium
MDR-TB	Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis
MGIT	Mycobacteria Growth Indicator Tube
MTB	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> complex
NAAT	Nucleic acid amplification test
NALC-NaOH	N-acetyl-L-cysteine sodium hydroxide
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
TPP	Target product profile
TEG	Technical Expert Group
TB	Tuberculosis
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization

## Acknowledgements

This document was prepared by Christopher Gilpin and Alexei Korobitsyn with input from Karin Weyer and Wayne van Gemert (WHO Global TB Programme), on the basis of consensus agreed at a Technical Expert Group (TEG) meeting convened by WHO on 29 May 2017, in Geneva, Switzerland.

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### Target Product Profile (TPP): Transport solution for samples to undergo mycobacterial culture with the ability to undergo additional testing

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The TPP was drafted by Samuel Schumacher, Claudia Denking, Heidi Albert, Sophia Georghiou and Kekeletso Kao, FIND, with the input from experts and stakeholders in the field, including input from the GLI core group members. The final TEG consensus TPP is presented in Annex 1.

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