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Practical manual of processing stool samples for diagnosis of childhood **TB**



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About this manual

This practical manual aims to help countries implement stool testing into their tuberculosis (TB) diagnostic and clinical practice. It provides evidence and incorporates recommendations on the use of stool as a sample type for diagnosing TB. It also contains steps for implementation and details on the laboratory process for conducting stool testing using Xpert MTB/RIF and Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra (Xpert Ultra).

Target audience

The target audience for this manual is ministries of health, programme managers, clinicians, front-line health workers (especially in paediatric TB), TB testing site managers, supervisory laboratory staff and GeneXpert users at national, state or provincial and testing site level, as well as implementing partners.

Abbreviations and acronyms

CI	confidence interval
FIND	Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics
GA	gastric aspirate
GLI	Global Laboratory Initiative
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
KNCV	KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation
MTBC	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> complex
NTP	national TB programme
OSF	optimized sucrose flotation
POSEE	Paediatric TB Operational and Sustainability Expertise Exchange
PPE	personal protective equipment
SOP	standard operating procedure
SOS	simple one-step
SPK	stool processing kit
SR	sample reagent
TB	tuberculosis
WHO	World Health Organization

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