

FROM: WV TUBERCULOSIS ELIMINATION PROGRAM
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STANDING ORDERS FOR SPUTUM COLLECTION FOR TB TESTING

TO: All WV Local Health Departments

ORDERS:

1. Submit all specimens to WV Office of Laboratory Services (OLS). Time mailings so they don't arrive on a holiday or weekend.
2. Please refer to the recommended Sputum Collection instructions for the Health Care Workers and Sputum Collection instructions for the Patient for the correct process of collecting sputum specimens.
3. For any suspect case of TB, obtain 3 consecutive days of morning sputum for smear and culture testing.
4. For all active TB cases:
 - Obtain the initial 3 consecutive days morning sputum for smear and culture testing.
 - Then obtain 3 consecutive days morning sputum two weeks after the start of treatment.
 - Then obtain 3 consecutive days morning sputum every two weeks until all three consecutive smears are negative.
 - Then obtain 3 consecutive days morning sputum monthly until all 3 culture results are negative for two months.
5. Follow the above criteria unless otherwise instructed by clinician.

Sandra G. Elliott M.D.

Sandra Elliott, MD

DATE

1/2/2025

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