

Table 1**Rapid Diagnosis of Pulmonary Tuberculosis**

NAA	AFB Smear	Recommendations
+	+	Presumptive diagnosis of TB; start therapy pending culture result.
+	-	Use clinical judgment with regard to starting therapy; consider repeating testing, including NAA (if > 2 NAA are +, presumptive therapy is indicated).
-	+	Test for inhibitors in specimen (present in 3%-7% of sputum): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inhibitor detected: NAA of no value; use clinical judgment.• Inhibitor not detected: use clinical judgment, repeat testing; if repeat AFB smear positive but NAA negative, make presumptive diagnosis of NTM infection.
-	-	Use clinical judgment with regard to need for presumptive therapy (sensitivity of NAA only 50%-80% with negative smear).

Adapted from: CDC. Updated guidelines for the use of nucleic acid amplification test in the diagnosis of tuberculosis. *MMWR*. 2009;58:7-10.