

## Frequently Asked Questions on Cy-Tb skin test

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### **1. What is the rationale and guidance for a repeat Cy-Tb test? If an individual has been tested for TB infection and is negative, when can we repeat TB Infection test using Cy-Tb test?**

Repeating the Cy-Tb test is not recommended. Only after 6 weeks of initial negative test results of TB infection, it may be repeated in individuals with a re-exposure to TB and if recommended by the clinician.

### **2. Can we administer a Cy-Tb test in anyone <18 years?**

Current recommendation for use Cy-tb skin test under the NTEP program is for age 18 years and above. Regulatory approval for Cy-Tb by Indian Council of Medical Research(ICMR) and from Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation(CDSCO) is for age above 1 yr.

### **3. Are healthcare workers considered a high-risk group for TB disease/TB infection, and can we give them Cy-Tb skin test?**

Yes, healthcare workers are classified as a high-risk group for TB disease/ TB infection as they are working in high TB transmission settings. Cy-Tb testing may be offered to healthcare workers after ruling out TB disease (by symptoms and chest X-ray/ NAAT/clinical evaluation).

### **4. Can we provide Cy-Tb vials to the private sector through NTEP? If yes, what will be the mechanism?**

Yes, Cy-Tb vials can be made available to the private healthcare institutes by NTEP under partnership and has to be given free of cost. It is the responsibility of the private healthcare institute to ensure that the enrolment of the beneficiaries receiving the Cy-Tb test is done in Ni-kshay.

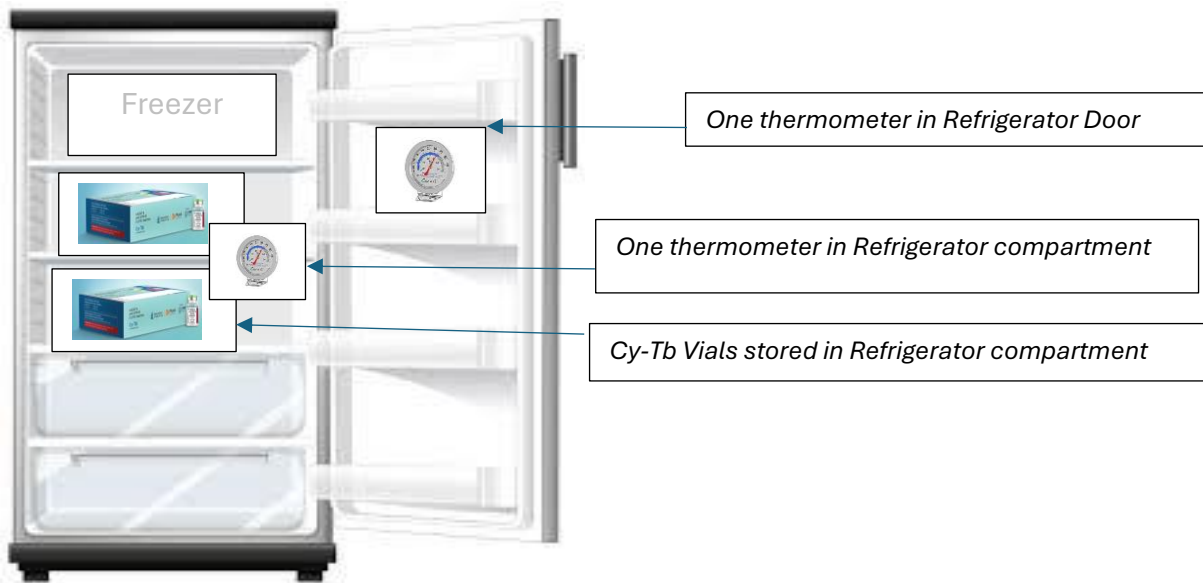
### **5. What is the false positive rate for Cy-Tb? Should we start TPT after Cy-Tb is positive?**

Cy-Tb has high specificity of 97%, the likelihood of false positive is very low hence, TPT can be started after Cy-Tb test is positive and TB disease is ruled out.

### **6. Can Cy-Tb be stored and transported along with vaccines or specimens to maintain cold chain?**

Cy-Tb **must not be** stored or transported along with vaccines or specimen to avoid any program error. Separate arrangements should be made to maintain cold chain for Cy-Tb.

## 7. How to store Cy-Tb vials in domestic refrigerator?



*Figure 1: Storing Cy-Tb in Domestic Refrigerator*

Cy-Tb vials to be stored in refrigerator compartment as shown in the figure 1 above. Arrange them in stacks so air can move in between.

Do not store Cy-Tb vials on the door shelves as the temperature in door shelves as it is too warm to store, and when the door is opened, shelves are instantly exposed to room temperature.

Do not store Cy-TB vials in the freezer, chiller or baskets.

It is advisable to keep the thermometer in the fridge, one in compartment and another in the door to monitor the temperature maintenance between 2 to 8 degrees Celsius. (monitor morning and evening temperature)

## 8. What are the stocking norms for Cy-Tb?

Cold chain mechanism is to be maintained for all the Cy-Tb skin test kits. (to be kept at 2- 8 degree Celsius)

State level should maintain Cy-Tb stocks buffer of 2 months. Similarly, district level buffer for one month of estimated requirement, and sub- districts should maintain buffer of Cy-Tb vials for 15 days.

## 9. How will the Cy-Tb vials and the 0.1 ml AD syringes be disposed?

Cy-Tb vials and 0.1 ml AD syringes will be disposed in accordance with the recent Centre for Pollution Control Board (CPCB) guidelines of biomedical waste disposal/ latest National guidelines issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Bio Medical Waste Management (BMW) guidelines.

Any open vial (unused beyond 28 days as per open vial policy) / broken or expired to be disposed of in blue coloured puncture proof, leak proof boxes or containers with blue coloured marking. Glass pieces from the broken vial must be handled with care and discarded as per recent Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's BMW/ CPCB guidelines.

All the used syringes to be cut using the hub cutter (that cuts the plastic hub of the syringe, which along with the needle) and collected in the puncture-proof container. Segregate and dispose the plastic portion of the cut syringes in the red biohazard bag.

Used cotton swab to be discarded in yellow coloured non chlorinated plastic bags.