Active Tuberculosis (TB) Diagnosis Algorithm

Patient Symptoms:

Cough > 3 weeks Fever Night sweats Weight loss Hemoptysis

High Risk Population:

Immigrant Aboriginal Inner City Elderly Contact

Consider 1, 2 and 3 if Symptom and High Risk Population Suspicion is High

1. Chest x-ray indicative of TB*:

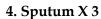
- Apicoposterior consolidation +/-cavitation
- Mediastinal or hilar lymphadenopathy
- Nodular changes, especially those consistent with endobronchial spread
- Pleural effusion

2. Inform Public Health Alberta Health Services (AHS) TB Services 3. Consider home or hospital isolation when:

Patient has...

- Significant cough
- Cavitary disease
- High risk profession
- Recent contact

*If index of suspicion is high, proceed to 4 in spite of a typical chest x-ray



- Spontaneous morning sputum or
- Induced sputum
- Bronchoscopy

5. Sputum smear or culture positive for TB

6. TB services direction

7. Home or hospital isolation required x (minimum) 2 weeks with treatment

8. Consider discontinuation of home or hospital isolation when 3 sputa smear or culture negative

