

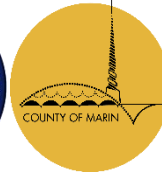
**NAPA-SOLANO-YOLO-MARIN-MENDOCINO
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TO: Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin-Mendocino (NSYMM) PH Lab Submitters

SUBJECT: Changes to Molecular TB (tuberculosis) drug susceptibility testing

Dear NSYMM PHL Submitters,

California Department of Public Health Microbial Diseases Laboratory Branch (MDL) is offering whole genome sequencing (WGS) drug susceptibility testing (DST) for more comprehensive molecular resistance detection from TB *pure cultures only*.

Acceptance criteria:

- Pure cultures with visible biomass (Lowenstein-Jensen slant or MGIT broth):
 - Visible biomass must be present (equivalent to at least 10 μ L loopful of culture)
 - Stored refrigerated or at room temperature (up to 12 weeks from subculture date)
 - Frozen (subculture prior to submission)
- If TB WGS DST test was performed for the same patient before, time between collection dates for the samples should be at least 3 months. (Exceptions upon pre-approval are possible)

WGS DST results will be available and reported to submitters in 7–14 days (turnaround time).

Pyrosequencing (PSQ) is available **through February 2024**. It will continue to be the primary molecular TB DST method for *sediment* or *mixed culture* specimens until the tNGS (targeted next generation sequencing) test becomes available later in Quarter 1 of 2024.

It is recommended to review and evaluate all molecular and phenotypic TB DST results, in addition to other clinical and laboratory data because discrepancies between WGS and phenotypic DST results are possible.

Please call the laboratory if you have questions.

Thank you,

Beatrix Kapusinszky,
Laboratory Director