

**- UPDATE -**  
**Implementation and roll-out of Xpert MTB/RIF**  
**July 2011**

This document provides an update on the global roll-out of Xpert MTB/RIF, the WHO-endorsed test for the rapid simultaneous detection of TB and rifampicin resistance.

Background information on the test, as well as operational considerations, WHO interim recommendations on site selection and positioning of the test, selection of individuals to test and patient management approaches, and key data elements to be collected to inform future scale-up, can be found in the **WHO Policy Statement “Automated real-time nucleic acid amplification technology for rapid and simultaneous detection of tuberculosis and rifampicin resistance: Xpert MTB/RIF system”** and the **WHO Rapid Implementation document “Technical and operational ‘How-to’, Practical considerations”**: [http://www.who.int/tb/laboratory/policy\\_statements](http://www.who.int/tb/laboratory/policy_statements)

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**Website for monitoring roll-out of Xpert MTB/RIF and plans for procurement**

A website dedicated to the roll-out of Xpert MTB/RIF has been launched by the WHO TB Diagnostics and Laboratory Strengthening unit: <http://www.who.int/tb/laboratory/mtbrifrollout>

The primary objective of the website is to facilitate coordination among implementers, including countries, technical agencies, nongovernmental agencies, and other partners. To attain this objective, the website:

- Maps the numbers of **procured GeneXpert instruments and Xpert MTB/RIF cartridges** by country, using data provided by the manufacturer via FIND on a quarterly basis. Data through Q1 2011 is currently mapped, with Q2 2011 data expected by the end of July.
- Provides information on the country **location of GeneXpert instruments** and **implementing partners**, as well as plans for expansion.
- Provides reports from countries and partners of any **significant problems** in the functioning of the instruments or cartridges.

**The website currently contains limited information received from countries and partners. In order to have the most comprehensive and up-to-date information on the website, we rely on all country implementers, partners, and funders. Accompanying this July Update is a form we ask you to please complete and return, so that we can improve the usefulness of the site.**

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**Checklist: Prerequisites to country implementation of Xpert MTB/RIF and key action points at country level**

At the request of countries, a checklist has been developed outlining prerequisites and key actions that need to be considered by countries prior and during roll-out and implementation of the Xpert MTB/RIF assay: [http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2011/WHO\\_HTM\\_TB\\_2011.12\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2011/WHO_HTM_TB_2011.12_eng.pdf). The checklist should be used to complement the more comprehensive Rapid Implementation Document.

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**Joining this mailing list**

Regular updates on implementation and roll-out of Xpert MTB/RIF are circulated to all interested parties. If you received this email as a forward, and would like to be added directly to the mailing list, please send a request to the contact below.

**Contact person**

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