Evaluation of a Child with a Positive Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) Result

Positive TST result based on established breakpoints

- Focused history and physical examination: signs and symptoms of TB disease
- Chest radiograph; frontal and lateral
- Evaluate for possible source of infection

Clinically and radiographically

- Normal
- Abnormal

Treat for LTBI

Consistent with TB

- Collect cultures
- Notify local health department
- Start 3 or 4 drug TB therapy

TB still possible?

Reassess weekly

More consistent with other diagnosis

Patient very stable?

Yes

Consider culture collection (NO INH until TB disease ruled out) Treat alternate diagnosis: pneumonia, asthma, adenitis, etc.

No

Other diagnosis confirmed Course inconsistent with TB disease

*** Cultures only help if they are positive***

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