

## Case Definitions for the Care and Treatment of TB Clients

Disease category	Term	Definition
	Presumptive TB case (previously called “TB suspect”)	Any person who presents with symptoms or signs suggestive of TB, in particular cough of one week or more and cough regardless of duration in HIV-positive persons
<b>TB case categories</b>		
<b>By diagnosis</b>	Bacteriologically confirmed TB case	A client with a biological specimen that is positive by smear microscopy, culture or WHO-approved rapid diagnostics (such as Xpert MTB/RIF). All such cases should be notified, whether TB treatment was started or not.
	Clinically diagnosed TB case	A client who does not fulfil the criteria for bacteriological confirmation but has been diagnosed with active TB. This definition includes cases diagnosed on the basis of X-ray abnormalities or suggestive histology and extra-pulmonary cases without laboratory confirmation. Clinically diagnosed cases subsequently found to be bacteriologically positive (before or after starting treatment) should be reclassified as bacteriologically confirmed.
<b>By Site</b>	Pulmonary TB client	Refers to any bacteriologically confirmed or clinically diagnosed case of TB involving the lung parenchyma or the tracheobronchial tree. Tuberculous intra-thoracic lymphadenopathy (mediastinal and/or hilar) or tuberculous pleural effusion, without radiographic abnormalities in the lungs, constitutes a case of extra pulmonary TB. Note that pleura and pleural cavity are not part of the lung parenchyma or tracheobronchial tree. A client with both pulmonary and extra-pulmonary TB should be classified as a case of PTB.
	Extrapulmonary TB client	Refers to any bacteriologically confirmed or clinically diagnosed client with TB involving organs other than the lungs, e.g. pleura, lymph nodes, abdomen, genitourinary tract, skin, joints, bones, and meninges.
<b>By history of previous treatment</b>	New TB client	A client who has never had treatment for TB or who has taken anti-TB drugs for less than one month.
	Previously treated client	A client who has received 1 month or more of anti-TB medicines in the past. They are further classified by the outcome of their most recent course of treatment (described below).
	Relapse clients	A client who has previously been treated for TB, was declared cured or treatment completed at the end of their most recent course of treatment, and who is now diagnosed with a recurrent episode of TB.
	Retreatment after lost to follow-up	A client who has been previously treated for TB and was declared lost to follow-up at the end of their most recent course of treatment. (These were previously known as treatment after default clients.)
	Retreatment after treatment failure	A client who has previously been treated for TB and whose treatment failed at the end of their most recent course of treatment.
	Other previously treated clients	A client who has previously been treated for TB but whose outcome after their most recent course of treatment is unknown or undocumented.