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Supplementary appendix 1

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31 **Methods**

32 Setting

33 The study was done at Kraaifontein Community Health Centre, a secondary level health
34 facility.

35 Definitions

36 *Time-to-positivity*

37 Days for a culture to become *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (*Mtb*) positive in the
38 absence of contamination. If both cultures were positive, the shorter time-to-positivity (TTP)
39 was used.

40 *Ultra “trace reclassified” and “trace excluded”*

41 “Trace reclassified” treats Ultra-positives with a trace result as Ultra-negative. “Trace
42 excluded” excludes participants with trace results from a particular analysis.

43 *Non-actionable result*

44 Any result that is not positive or negative and hence does not provide potentially actionable
45 information to aid clinical decision making. Actionable results are therefore positive or
46 negative or, for a drug susceptibility test, resistant or susceptible.

47 Specimen processing and diagnostic testing

48 *C-reactive protein*

49 iChromaII has a detection range of 2.5-300 mg/l¹. Values reported by the machine as <2.5 mg/l
50 (n=113) were classified as index test negative. For continuous comparisons involving the
51 n=113, a midpoint value of 1.25 mg/l was arbitrarily assigned. C-reactive protein (CRP) testing
52 was not done for 62 participants (no blood collected) enrolled in the study. A further 150

53 participants were not tested prospectively due to reagent shortages, but plasma stored at -80°C
54 was tested retrospectively.

55 *Sputum Xpert and Ultra*

56 700 µl of one sputum sediment remaining post-culture inoculation was, following storage at -
57 20°C for a maximum of two weeks, arbitrarily selected for Xpert² [sediments ≤0.7ml were made
58 up to volume with phosphate buffered saline (Sigma Aldrich, Modderfontein, South Africa)].
59 The sediment used for Xpert was arbitrarily selected by the technician, who had no knowledge
60 of which sediment was, per Figure 1, from sputum 1 or 2. Ultra (version 4) and Xpert (version
61 2) were done per manufacturer specifications^{3,4} (Cepheid, United States) and, if either result
62 was non-actionable (see above **Definitions**), specimen-sample reagent mixes were re-tested (if
63 insufficient volume existed the initial result was reported).

64 *Speciation and drug susceptibility testing*

65 MTBDR_{plus} (Hain Lifesciences, Nehren, Germany) was done on Auramine-O acid fast-
66 positive culture growth (when two cultures were positive, the one with the shortest TTP was
67 tested) for *Mtb*, and rifampicin- and isoniazid-susceptibility detection. MTBDR_{plus} on the
68 culture isolate served as a reference standard for rifampicin resistance.

69 *Urine testing*

70 For Ultra, most urine was tested prospectively [98% (716/732); proportions based on urine
71 included in the head-to-head analysis]. 20 ml was tested or, if less was available, the entire
72 volume used [99% (729/732) of participants had at least 20 ml available]. After centrifugation
73 (4000 rpm, 10 min), supernatant was decanted until a ~700 µl pellet-supernatant mixture was
74 retained prior to resuspension in Ultra buffer (Cepheid, Sunnyvale, CA, USA) and testing⁴. If
75 the concentrated result was non-actionable or positive, Ultra was repeated on 700 µl
76 unconcentrated urine. For Determine TB LAM (LF-LAM; Abbott, South Africa),

77 unconcentrated urine (60 µl) was tested as recommended⁵. 96% (701/732) participants were
78 tested prospectively, and the remainder tested retrospectively due to stock shortages.

79 Sample sizes

80 We did post-hoc sample size calculations for sensitivity and specificity by measuring the
81 precision of accuracy estimates (95% CI calculated using the binomial method) as a function
82 of sample size, as recommended by TB diagnostic test evaluation guidance^{6,7}. For triage tests
83 (W4SS, CRP10), we tested until we attained at least 95% CI widths on either side of the point
84 estimate of <10% for sensitivity and <5% for specificity. We did sputum testing until we had
85 the same level of precision for each estimate. We did not do sample size calculations for urine
86 tests, which was an exploratory evaluation and included, in addition to LF-LAM, multiple
87 forms of Ultra testing (concentrated, selected unconcentrated testing).

88 **Results**

89 Rifampicin resistance

90 *Ultra*

91 Amongst Ultra-positives in the head-to-head sputum comparison with Xpert, 3% (3/89), 80%
92 (71/89) and 17% (15/89) were Ultra rifampicin-resistant, -susceptible, and -indeterminate (all
93 indeterminates trace), respectively. All three Ultra rifampicin-resistant people were
94 MTBDR*plus* rifampicin-resistant and one MTBDR*plus* rifampicin-resistant person was Ultra
95 rifampicin-susceptible [Ultra resistance sensitivity hence 75% (3/4)]. Of the Ultra rifampicin-
96 susceptibles, 6% (4/71) were culture-negative. Ultra's specificity for rifampicin resistance was
97 therefore 99% (66/67). Of the Ultra rifampicin-indeterminate people, 73% (11/15) were
98 culture-negative and the four culture-positives were all MTBDR*plus* rifampicin-susceptible.

99 *Xpert*

100 Amongst Xpert-positives in the head-to-head sputum comparison with Ultra, 9% (6/65) were
101 Xpert rifampicin-resistant, 88% (57/65) were Xpert rifampicin-susceptible and 3% (2/65) were
102 rifampicin indeterminate. Of the Xpert resistant cases, 83% (5/6) were culture-positive and
103 MTBDR*plus*-resistant [Xpert sensitivity for rifampicin resistance 100% (5/5)]. Ultra detected
104 50% (3/6) of these people as rifampicin resistant (of the others, two were Ultra-negative and
105 the other Ultra rifampicin-susceptible). Of the Xpert rifampicin-susceptibles, 7% (4/57)
106 MTBDR*plus* were culture-negative and, of the remaining culture-positives, 100% (53/53) were
107 MTBDR*plus*-susceptible [Xpert specificity for resistance therefore 100% (53/53)]. Two Xpert
108 rifampicin-indeterminates occurred and both were culture-negative.

109 Urine testing

110 *Sensitivity and specificity*

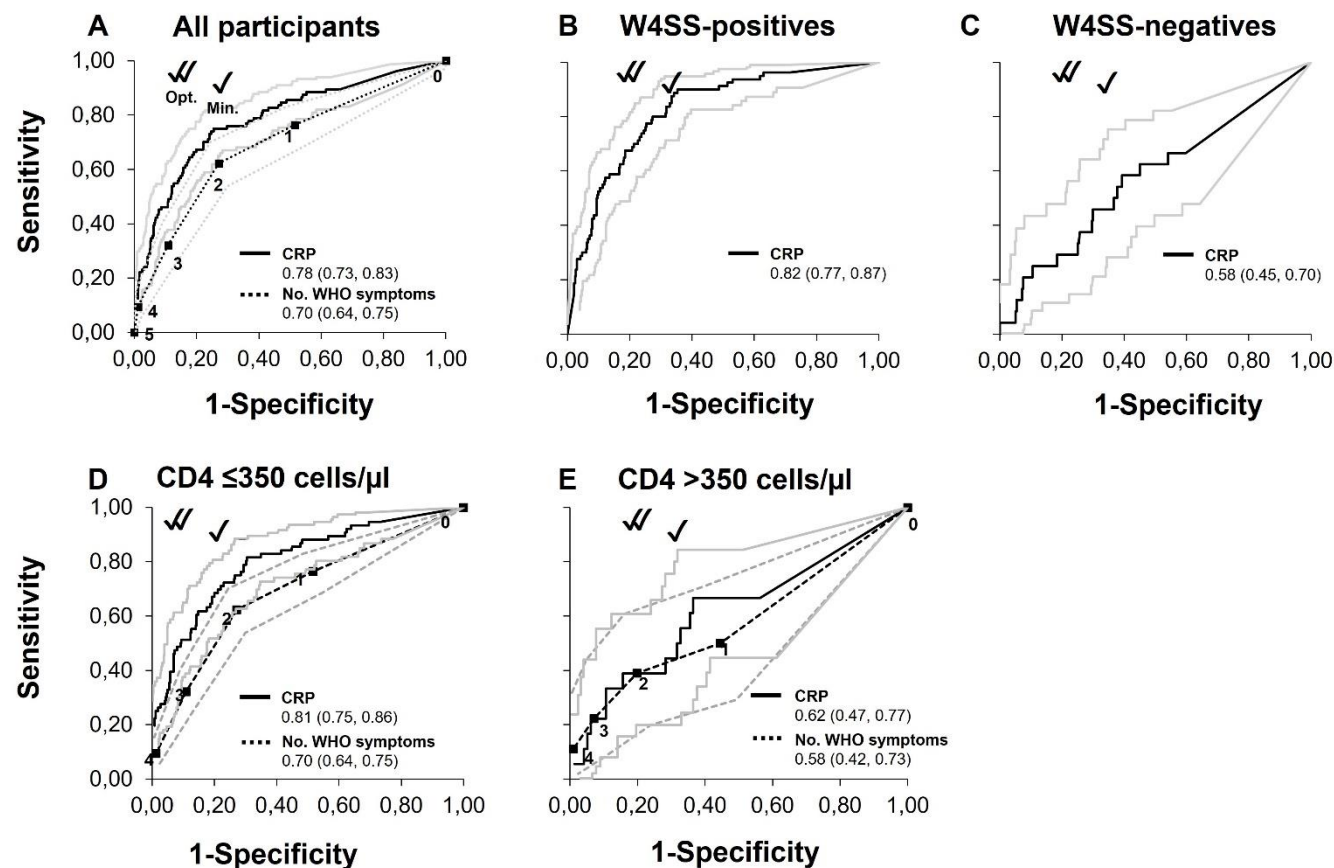
111 No differences were observed between tests when stratified by W4SS-positive or -negatives
112 nor between tests after W4SS stratification. Similar trends occurred for non-head-to-head data.

113 *Concentrated vs. unconcentrated Ultra*

114 Concentrated Ultra initially non-actionable: The unconcentrated urine Ultra-positivity rate in
115 people with a non-actionable result from concentrated urine was more than that in people
116 whose concentrated urine was positive [11% (13/118) vs. 5% (33/732); p=0.001], indicating
117 that, in the event of non-actionable concentrated urine Ultra, that participant has increased odds
118 of Ultra-positivity on a corresponding unconcentrated urine (**Appendix Figure 3A**).

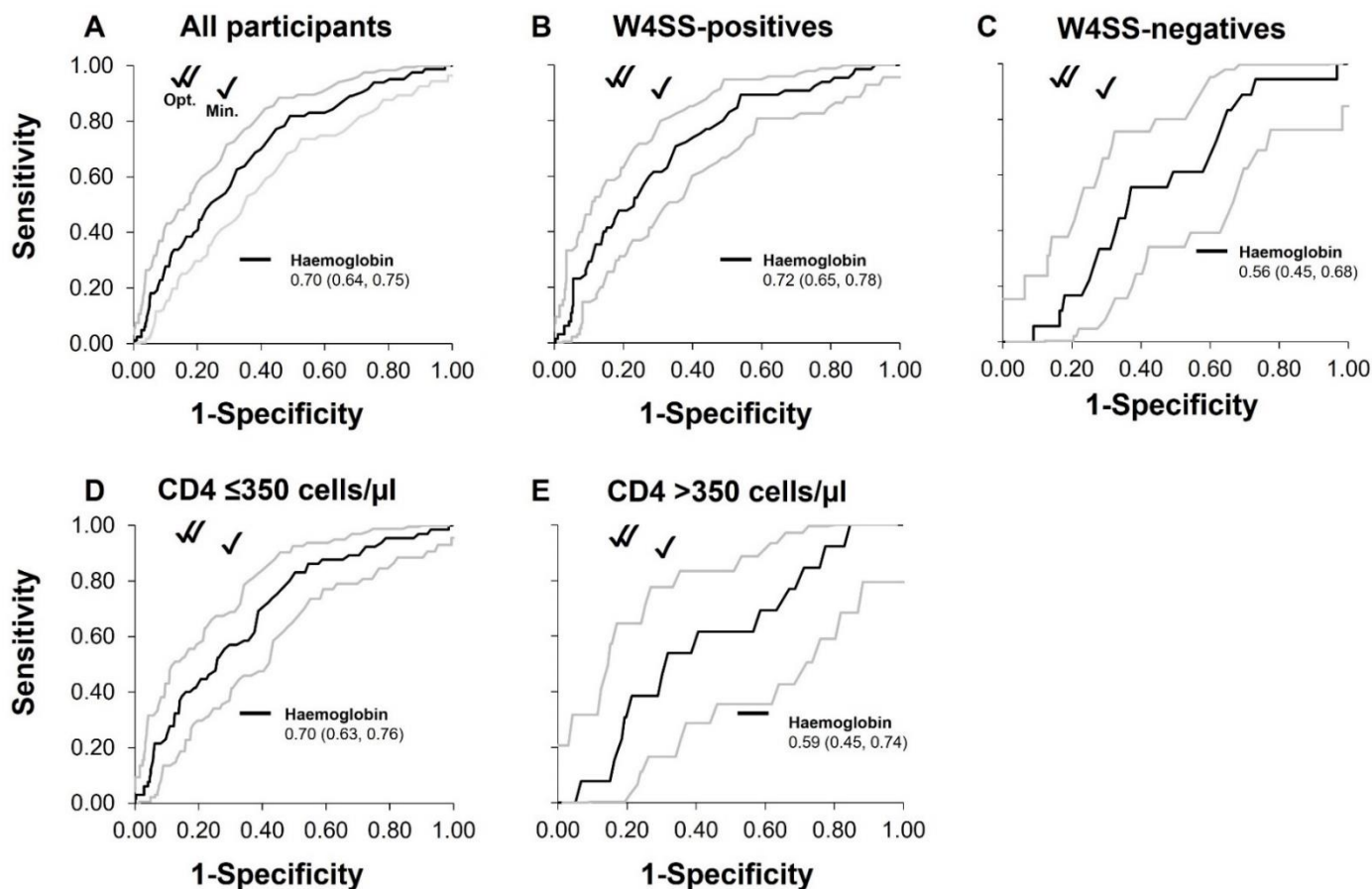
119 Concentrated Ultra initially positive: 890/897 urines were concentrated for Ultra testing. Of
120 these, 772 had actionable results (13% [118/890] were non-actionable), and 4% (33/772) had
121 a positive result [27% (9/33) negative when unconcentrated urine was used, indicating
122 concentration increases yield] (**Appendix Figure 3B**, remainder of unconcentrated results
123 negative). 100% (33/33) of the concentrated Ultra-positives received unconcentrated Ultra:
124 97% (32/33) were actionable (one non-actionable) and 72% (23/32) were positive [83% (19/23)
125 rifampicin-susceptible, 4% (1/23) rifampicin-resistant, 9% (2/23) rifampicin-indeterminate,
126 4% (1/23) rifampicin “no result”].

127 **Appendix Figure 1.** ROCs of CRP and number of W4SS in (A) all ART initiators, (B, C) stratified by W4SS-status, and (D, E) by CD4 cell
 128 counts. CRP had higher AUROC in W4SS-positives than -negatives and in patients with lower CD4 cell counts than higher (as did W4SS). CRP
 129 was the only test for which Cis overlapped with the WHO TPP minimal sensitivity and specificity target, and this was only in people with advanced
 130 disease (W4SS-positive or low CD4 cell count). AUROCs with 95% Cis with double and single ticks approximating the optimum and minimum
 131 WHO TPP sensitivity and specificity, respectively are shown. The number of symptoms are shown.



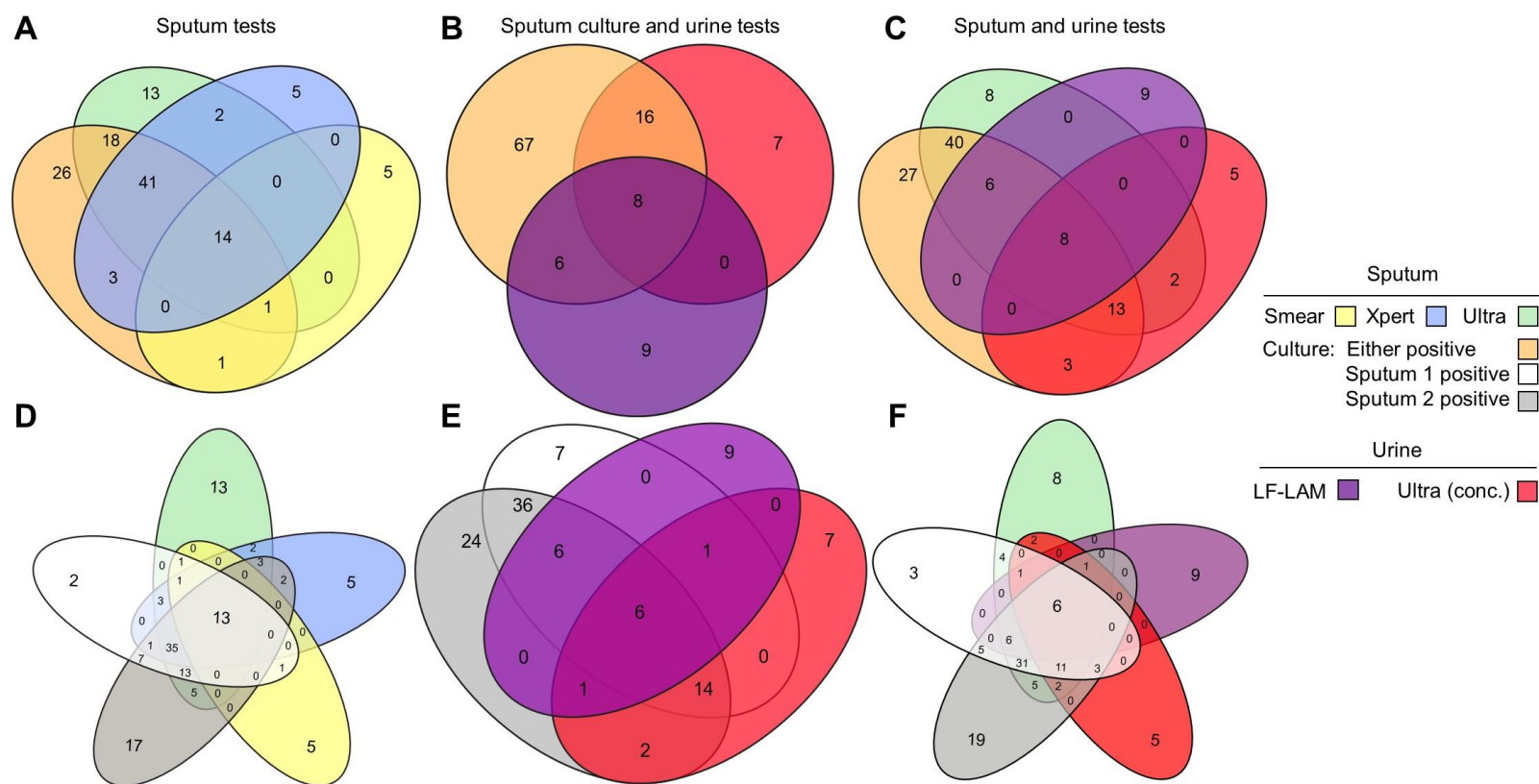
132 Abbreviations: AUROC, area under the ROC curve; Cis, confidence intervals; CRP, C-reactive protein; Min., minimum; Opt., optimal WHO TPP; ROC, receiver operator
 133 characteristics; WHO, World Health Organization; WHO TPP, WHO target product profile; W4SS, WHO-recommended four-symptom screen.

134 **Appendix Figure 2.** ROC curves of haemoglobin among all participants (A) and after W4SS (B, C) or CD4 count stratification (D, E). AUCROCs
135 showed a trend towards being reduced in W4SS-negatives (vs. -positives) and in people with a CD4 count >350 cells/ μ l (vs. \leq 350 cells/ μ l), but no
136 significant differences were detected. Minimal and optimal sensitivity and specificity for the triage test TPP are represented by single and double
137 ticks, respectively. Grey lines are 95% CIs.
138



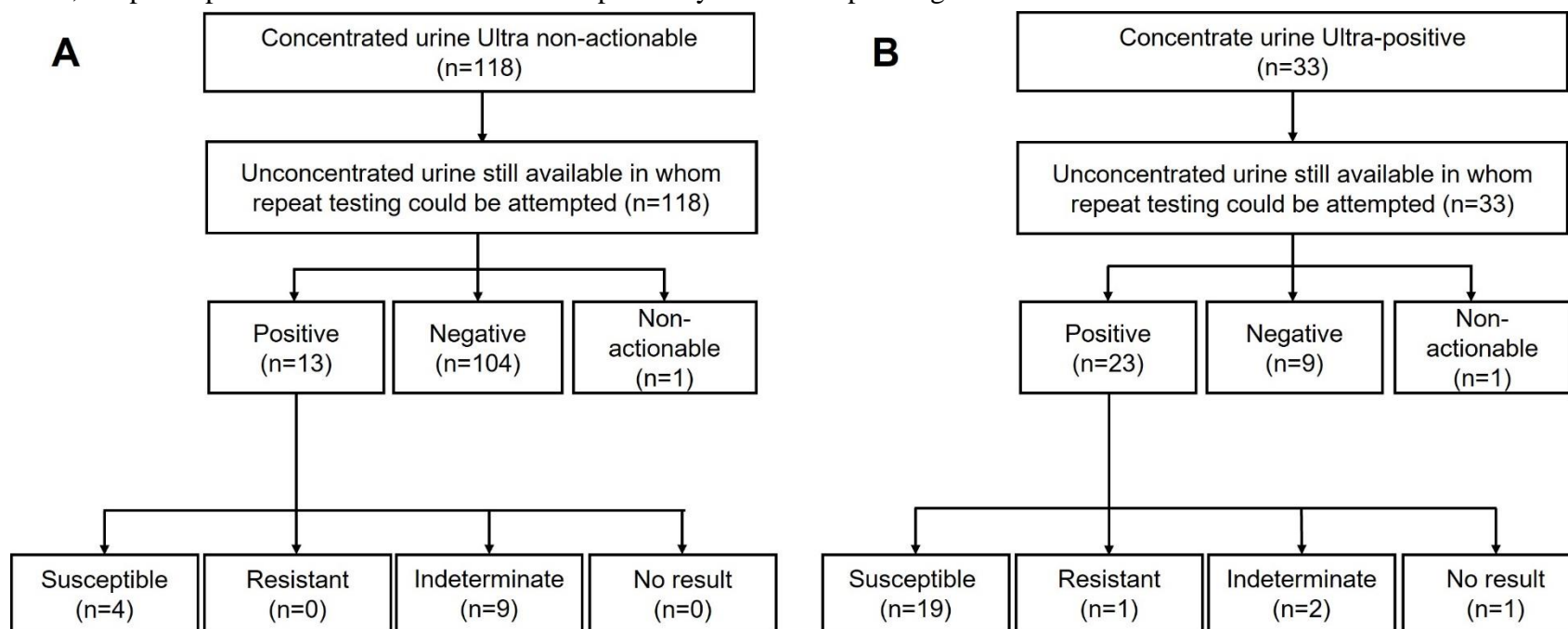
139 Abbreviations: AUCROC, area under the receiver operator characteristic curve; CI, confidence interval; Min., minimal; Opt., optimal; ROC,
140 receiver operator characteristic; TPP, target product profile; W4SS, World Health Organization-recommended four-symptom screen; WHO, World
141 Health Organization.

142 **Appendix Figure 3.** Euler diagrams showing overlap between sputum- and non-sputum tests against composite (A-C) and individual (D-F) culture
 143 results. Numbers represent people positive for each test on sputum (first column), urine (with the sputum reference standard; second column), or
 144 sputum and urine (third column). (A) Sputum Ultra detected most culture-positives missed by Xpert and, in 10% (13/129) of people with a positive
 145 sputum test result, was the only positive result. (B) Urine Ultra and LF-LAM had poor yield and missed many cases but detected people missed
 146 by other tests (including culture). (C) When comparing tests on sputum and urine, each test exclusively detected some people missed by other
 147 tests. D-F show many people were positive only by a single culture, and a two-culture reference standard's importance. Note people require a
 148 positive or negative result to be included here, which is the why total n varies slightly across panels and versus yield calculations (**Results**).



149 Abbreviations: conc., concentrated. LF-LAM, Determine TB LAM Ag test; MGIT, Mycobacteria Growth Indicator Tube; Ultra, Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra; Xpert, Xpert
 150 MTB/RIF.

151 **Appendix Figure 4.** Unconcentrated urine Ultra results in participants who had, on a paired concentrated urine, a (A) non-actionable or (B)
 152 positive result. 27% (9/33) of concentrated Ultra-positive urines were negative when unconcentrated urine was tested, indicating concentration
 153 increases yield. Of the concentrated urine non-actionable results, 99% (117/118) resolved when unconcentrated urine was tested, and 11% (13/117)
 154 of these were Ultra-positive upon retesting (for two people, this unconcentrated Ultra result was the only positive confirmatory test result). The
 155 unconcentrated urine Ultra-positivity rate in people with a non-actionable result from concentrated urine was more than double that in people
 156 whose concentrated urine was positive [11% (13/118) vs. 5% (33/732); $p=0.001$], indicating that, in the event of non-actionable concentrated urine
 157 Ultra, the participant has increased odds of Ultra-positivity on a corresponding unconcentrated urine.



158 Abbreviations: RIF, rifampicin; Ultra, Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra.

159 **Appendix Table 1.** Head-to-head diagnostic accuracy of cough and CRP stratified by W4SS status, shown overall and in smear-negative people
 160 only. CRP had decreased sensitivity in W4SS-negatives vs. -positives but higher specificity. When comparing CRP thresholds within people of
 161 the same W4SS status, ≥ 10 mg/l had higher specificity than ≥ 5 mg/l. Trends were similar in smear-negative people. The “All” column (for the
 162 “irrespective of smear status” section) is the same as in **Table 2**. Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.
 163

	All (n=800)				W4SS-positives (n=442)				W4SS-negatives (n=358)			
	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
Irrespective of smear status												
Cough (any duration)	53 (43, 63) 55/104	73 (70, 76) 506/696	22 (18, 29) 54/226	91 (89, 94) 524/574	69 (58, 79) 55/80	48 (43, 53) 172/362	22 (18, 29) 55/245	87 (82, 92) 172/197	0 (0, 15) 0/24 p<0.0001**	100 (99, 100) 334/334 p<0.0001**	Non-calculable -	93 (91, 96) 334/358 p=0.017**
≥ 2 weeks	42 (33, 53) 44/104 p=0.13*	83 (81, 86) 579/696 p<0.0001*	27 (21, 35) 44/161 p=0.26*	91 (89, 93) 579/639 p=0.74*	55 (44, 67) 44/80 p=0.073*	68 (63, 73) 245/362 p<0.0001*	27 (21, 35) 44/161 p=0.26*	87 (83, 91) 245/281 p=0.97*	0 (0, 15) 0/24 p<0.0001**	100 (99, 100) 334/334 p<0.0001**	Non-calculable -	93 (91, 96) 334/358 p=0.0086** p>0.99*
CRP ≥ 5 mg/l	86 (78, 92) 89/104 p<0.0001†	49 (45, 53) 339/696 p<0.0001†	20 (17, 24) 89/446 p=0.44†	96 (94, 98) 339/354 p=0.0095†	94 (87, 98) 75/80 p<0.0001†	40 (35, 45) 143/362 p=0.030†	26 (21, 31) 75/294 p=0.41†	97 (93, 99) 143/148 p=0.97†	58 (37, 78) 14/24 p<0.0001** p<0.0001†	59 (54, 65) 196/334 p<0.0001** p<0.0001†	9 (6, 15) 14/152 p<0.0001** -	95 (92, 98) 196/206 p=0.49** p=0.37†
≥ 10 mg/l	77 (68, 85) 80/104 p<0.0001† p=0.39‡	64 (61, 68) 445/696 p<0.0001† p<0.0001‡	24 (20, 30) 80/331 p=0.63† p=0.16‡	95 (93, 97) 445/469 p=0.021† p=0.56‡	90 (82, 96) 72/80 p=0.001† p=0.39‡	54 (49, 59) 194/362 p=0.10† p<0.0001‡	30 (25, 37) 72/240 p=0.059† p=0.25‡	96 (93, 99) 194/202 p=0.0015† p=0.78‡	33 (16, 56) 8/24 p<0.0001** p=0.0019† p=0.082‡	75 (71, 80) 251/334 p<0.0001** p<0.0001† p<0.0001‡	9 (4, 17) 8/91 p<0.0001** -	94 (91, 97) 251/267 p=0.32** p=0.72† p=0.59‡
Smear-negatives only												
Cough (any duration)	49 (39, 60) 43/88	73 (70, 77) 504/691	19 (14, 25) 43/230	92 (90, 95) 504/549	64 (52, 76) 43/67	4 (43, 53) 170/357	19 (14, 25) 43/230	88 (83, 92) 170/194	0 (0, 17) 0/21 p<0.0001**	100 (99, 100) 334/334 p<0.0001**	Non-calculable -	94 (92, 97) 334/355 p=0.0084**
≥ 2 weeks	38 (28, 49) 33/88 p=0.13*	84 (81, 87) 576/691 p<0.0001*	22 (16, 30) 33/148 p=0.39*	91 (89, 94) 576/631 p=0.75*	49 (37, 62) 33/67 p=0.081*	68 (63, 73) 242/357 p<0.0001*	22 (16, 30) 33/148 p=0.39*	88 (84, 92) 242/276 p=0.99*	0 (0, 17) 0/21 p<0.0001**	100 (99, 100) 334/334 p<0.0001**	Non-calculable -	94 (92, 97) 334/355 p=0.0047** p>0.99*
CRP ≥ 5 mg/l	84 (75, 92) 74/88	49 (46, 54) 338/691	17 (14, 22) 74/427	96 (94, 98) 338/352	93 (84, 98) 62/67	40 (35, 46) 142/357	22 (18, 28) 62/277	97 (93, 99) 142/147	57 (35, 79) 12/21 p<0.0001**	59 (54, 65) 196/334 p<0.0001**	8 (5, 14) 12/150 p<0.0001**	96 (92, 98) 196/205 p=0.64**

	p<0.0001 [†]	p<0.0001 [†]	p=0.66 [†]	p=0.012 [†]	p<0.0001 [†]	p<0.0001 [†]	p=0.25 [†]	p=0.003 [†]	p<0.0001 [†]	p<0.0001 [†]	-	p=0.44 [†]
≥10 mg/l	74 (64, 83) 65/88	64 (61, 68) 444/691	21 (17, 26) 65/312	95 (93, 97) 444/467	88 (78, 95) 59/67	54 (49, 60) 193/357	26 (21, 33) 59/223	96 (93, 99) 193/201	29 (12, 53) 6/21	75 (71, 80) 251/334	7 (3, 15) 6/89	94 (91, 97) 251/266
	p<0.0001 [†] p=0.096 [‡]	p<0.0001 [†] p<0.0001 [‡]	p=0.54 [†] p=0.23 [‡]	p=0.038 [†] p=0.52 [‡]	p=0.001 [†] p=0.38 [‡]	p=0.085 [†] p<0.0001 [‡]	p=0.048 [†] p=0.29 [‡]	p=0.0022 [†] p=0.78 [‡]	p<0.0001 ^{**} p=0.008 [†] p=0.061 [‡]	p<0.0001 ^{**} p<0.0001 [†] p<0.0001 [‡]	p<0.0001 ^{**} - p=0.72 [‡]	p=0.41 ^{**} p=0.88 [†] p=0.51 [‡]

164

Within row p-values: **W4SS-positive vs. -negative.

165

Within column p-values: *Any vs. ≥2-week cough; †Cough (any) vs. CRP; ‡CRP (≥5 vs ≥10 mg/l).

166

Abbreviations: CRP, C-reactive protein; CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; W4SS, WHO-recommended four-symptom

167

screen.

168 **Appendix Table 2.** Head-to-head diagnostic accuracy of W4SS and CRP stratified by CD4 count in smear-negative people. Trends were like
 169 those in all people irrespective of smear status (**Table 2**). Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.

	All (n=779)				CD4 count >350 cells/μl (n=309)				CD4 count ≤350 cells/μl (n=426)			
	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
Cough (any duration)	49 (39, 60) 43/88	73 (70, 77) 504/691	19 (14, 25) 43/230	92 (90, 95) 504/549	40 (17, 68) 6/15	80 (75, 85) 235/294	9 (4, 20) 6/65	96 (94, 99) 235/244	50 (38, 63) 33/66 p=0.48**	68 (63, 73) 243/360 p<0.0001**	22 (16, 30) 33/150 p=0.026**	88 (84, 92) 243/276 p=0.0010**
≥2 weeks	38 (28, 49) 33/88 p=0.13*	84 (81, 87) 576/691 p<0.0001*	22 (16, 30) 33/148 p=0.39*	91 (89, 94) 576/631 p=0.75*	27 (8, 56) 4/15 p=0.44*	88 (84, 92) 258/294 p=0.010*	10 (3, 24) 4/40 p=0.89*	50 (93, 98) 258/269 p=0.815*	39 (28, 53) 26/66 p=0.36**	81 (77, 85) 291/360 p=0.017**	27 (19, 38) 26/95 p=0.027**	88 (84, 92) 291/331 p=0.0010**
W4SS	76 (66, 85) 67/88	48 (46, 53) 334/691	16 (13, 20) 67/424	94 (92, 97) 334/355	47 (22, 74) 7/15	54 (49, 61) 160/294	5 (3, 10) 7/141	95 (91, 98) 160/168	82 (71, 91) 54/66 p=0.0044**	45 (40, 51) 161/360 p=0.014**	21 (17, 27) 54/253 p<0.0001**	93 (89, 97) 161/173 p=0.39**
CRP ≥5 mg/l	84 (75, 92) 74/88 p=0.19†	49 (46, 54) 338/691 p=0.83†	17 (14, 22) 74/427 p=0.55†	96 (94, 98) 338/352 p=0.24†	71 (45, 90) 10/15 p=0.27†	60 (55, 66) 176/294 p=0.18†	9 (5, 16) 10/128 p=0.34†	97 (94, 100) 176/181 p=0.324†	88 (78, 95) 58/66 p=0.043**	41 (36, 47) 147/360 p=0.001**	21 (17, 27) 58/271 p=0.001**	95 (91, 98) 147/155 p=0.26**
≥10 mg/l	74 (64, 83) 65/88 p=0.73† p=0.096‡	64 (61, 68) 444/691 p<0.0001† p<0.0001‡	21 (17, 26) 65/312 p=0.079† p=0.23‡	95 (93, 97) 444/467 p=0.53† p=0.52‡	33 (12, 62) 5/15 p=0.46† p=0.068‡	72 (67, 77) 211/294 p<0.0001† p=0.0023‡	6 (2, 13) 5/88 p=0.81† p=0.55‡	95 (92, 98) 211/221 p=0.912† p=0.354‡	82 (71, 91) 54/66 p<0.0001**	59 (54, 65) 213/360 p=0.0010**	27 (21, 34) 54/201 p<0.0001**	95 (91, 98) 213/225 p=0.69** p=0.50† p=0.94‡

170 Within row p-values: ** CD4 count >350 vs. ≤350 cells/μl.

171 Within column p-values: * Any vs. ≥2-week cough; † W4SS vs. CRP; ‡ CRP (≥5 vs. ≥10 mg/l).

172 Missing data: CD4 within three months (n=44).

173 Abbreviations: CRP, C-reactive protein; CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; W4SS, WHO-recommended four-symptom
 174 screen.

175 **Appendix Table 3.** Non-head-to-head diagnostic accuracy of cough and CRP stratified by W4SS status. Findings in this table are like head-to-
 176 head data in **Appendix Table 2.** Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.

	All				W4SS-positives				W4SS-negatives			
	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
Irrespective of smear status												
Cough (any duration)	52 (43, 63) 56/107	73 (70, 76) 544/748	22 (17, 28) 56/260	91 (89, 94) 544/595	65 (53, 76) 44/68	47 (43, 53) 180/381	18 (14, 24) 44/245	88 (84, 93) 180/204	0 (0, 15) 0/23 p<0.0001**	100 (99, 100) 362/362 p<0.0001**	Non- calculable -	94 (92, 97) 362/385 p=0.014**
≥2 weeks	42 (33, 52) 45/107 p=0.13 [†]	83 (81, 86) 621/748 p<0.0001*	26 (20, 34) 45/172 p=0.27 [†]	91 (89, 93) 621/683 p=0.75 [*]	50 (38, 63) 34/68 p=0.083 [*]	67 (63, 72) 256/381 p<0.0001*	21 (16, 29) 34/159 p=0.39 [†]	88 (85, 92) 256/290 p=0.99 [*]	0 (0, 15) 0/23 p<0.0001**	100 (99, 100) 362/362 p<0.0001**	Non- calculable -	94 (92, 97) 362/385 p=0.0078 [*]
CRP ≥5 mg/l	86 (78, 92) 89/104 p<0.0001†	49 (45, 53) 339/696 p<0.0001†	20 (17, 24) 89/446 p=0.62 [†]	96 (94, 98) 339/354 p=0.011†	93 (84, 98) 62/67 p<0.0001†	40 (35, 46) 142/357 p=0.041†	22 (18, 28) 62/277 p=0.21 [†]	97 (93, 99) 142/147 p=0.0050†	57 (35, 79) 12/21 p<0.0001**	59 (54, 65) 196/334 p<0.0001**	8 (5, 14) 12/150 p<0.0001**	96 (92, 98) 196/205 p=0.64 ^{**}
≥10 mg/l	77 (68, 85) 80/104 p<0.0001†	64 (61, 68) 445/696 p<0.0001†	24 (20, 30) 80/331 p=0.45 [†]	95 (93, 97) 445/469 p=0.029†	88 (78, 95) 59/67 p=0.001†	54 (49, 60) 193/357 p=0.064 [†]	26 (21, 33) 59/223 p=0.027†	96 (93, 99) 193/201 p=0.0037†	29 (12, 53) 6/21 p<0.0001**	75 (71, 80) 251/334 p<0.0001**	7 (3, 15) 6/89 p<0.0001**	94 (91, 97) 251/266 p=0.41 ^{**}
Smear-negatives only												
Cough (any duration)	48 (38, 60) 44/91	73 (70, 77) 542/743	18 (14, 24) 44/245	92 (90, 95) 542/589	65 (53, 76) 44/68	47 (43, 53) 180/381	18 (14, 24) 44/245	88 (84, 93) 180/204	0 (0, 15) 0/23 p<0.0001**	100 (99, 100) 362/362 p<0.0001**	Non- calculable -	94 (92, 97) 362/385 p=0.014**
≥2 weeks	37 (28, 49) 34/91 p=0.13 [†]	83 (81, 86) 618/743 p<0.0001*	21 (16, 29) 34/159 p=0.39 [*]	92 (90, 94) 618/675 p=0.76 [*]	50 (38, 63) 34/68 p=0.083 [*]	67 (63, 72) 256/381 p<0.0001*	21 (16, 29) 34/159 p=0.39 [†]	88 (85, 92) 256/290 p=0.99 [*]	0 (0, 15) 0/23 p<0.0001**	100 (99, 100) 362/362 p<0.0001**	Non- calculable -	94 (92, 97) 362/385 p=0.0078 [*]
CRP ≥5 mg/l	84 (75, 92) 74/88 p<0.0001†	49 (46, 53) 338/691 p<0.0001†	17 (14, 22) 74/427 p=0.84 [†]	96 (94, 98) 338/352 p=0.016†	93 (84, 98) 62/67 p<0.0001†	40 (35, 46) 142/357 p<0.0001†	22 (18, 28) 62/277 p=0.21 [†]	97 (93, 99) 142/147 p=0.0050†	57 (35, 79) 12/21 p<0.0001**	59 (54, 65) 196/334 p<0.0001**	8 (5, 14) 12/150 p<0.0001**	96 (92, 98) 196/205 p=0.64 ^{**}
≥10 mg/l	74	64	21	95	88	54	26	96	29	75	7	94

	(64, 83) 65/88	(61, 68) 444/691	(17, 26) 65/312	(93, 97) 444/467	(78, 95) 59/67	(49, 60) 193/357	(21, 33) 59/223	(93, 99) 193/201	(12, 53) 6/21	(71, 80) 251/334	(3, 15) 6/89	(91, 97) 251/266
	p<0.0001 [†]	p<0.0001 [†]	p=0.39 [†]	p=0.048 [†]	p=0.0014 [†]	p=0.064 [†]	p=0.027 [†]	p=0.0037 [†]	p<0.0001 ** p=0.0058 [†]	p<0.0001 ** p<0.0001 [†]	p<0.0001 ** -	p=0.41** p=0.86 [†]

177

Within row p-values: **W4SS-positives vs -negatives.

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Within column p-values: *Any vs. ≥2-week cough; [†]Cough (any) vs. CRP.

179

Abbreviations: CRP, C-reactive protein; CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; W4SS, WHO-recommended four-symptom

180

screen.

181 **Appendix Table 4.** Non-head-to-head diagnostic accuracy data of potential triage tests (“all” is the same as in **Appendix Table 2**). Diagnostic
 182 accuracy was like the head-to-head analyses done overall (**Table 2**) and in smear-negatives (**Appendix Table 2**). Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.

	All				CD4 count >350 cells/μl				CD4 count ≤350 cells/μl			
	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
Irrespective of smear status												
Cough (any duration)	52 (43, 63) 56/107	73 (70, 76) 544/748	22 (17, 28) 56/260	91 (89, 94) 544/595	39 (18, 65) 7/18	80 (75, 84) 246/309	10 (5, 20) 7/70	96 (93, 98) 246/257	53 (42, 65) 42/79	68 (63, 73) 267/395	25 (19, 32) 42/170	88 (84, 92) 267/304
≥2 weeks	42 (33, 52) 45/107 p=0.13*	83 (81, 86) 621/748 p<0.0001*	26 (20, 34) 45/172 p=0.27*	91 (89, 93) 621/683 p=0.75*	28 (10, 54) 5/18 p=0.48*	88 (84, 92) 271/309 p<0.0065*	12 (4, 26) 5/43 p=0.789*	95 (93, 98) 271/284 p=0.87*	43 (32, 55) 34/79 p=0.23** p=0.20*	80 (76, 85) 317/395 p=0.0082** p<0.0001*	30 (23, 40) 34/112 p=0.016** p=0.29*	88 (84, 91) 317/362 p=0.0010** p=0.92*
W4SS	76 (67, 84) 81/107	48 (45, 53) 362/748	17 (15, 22) 81/467	93 (91, 96) 362/388	50 (27, 74) 9/18	55 (50, 61) 171/309	6 (3, 12) 9/147	95 (91, 98) 171/180	80 (70, 88) 63/79 p=0.0092**	44 (40, 50) 174/395 p=0.0029**	22 (18, 28) 63/284 p<0.0001**	92 (87, 96) 174/190 p=0.19**
CRP ≥5mg/l	86 (78, 92) 89/104 p=0.070†	49 (45, 53) 339/696 p=0.91†	20 (17, 24) 89/446 p=0.31†	96 (94, 98) 339/354 p=0.14†	67 (41, 87) 12/18 p=0.31†	60 (55, 66) 176/294 p=0.26†	9 (5, 16) 12/130 p=0.33†	97 (93, 99) 176/182 p=0.42†	89 (81, 96) 68/76 p=0.015** p=0.094†	41 (36, 46) 148/365 p<0.0001** p=0.33†	24 (20, 30) 68/285 p<0.0001** p=0.65†	95 (91, 98) 148/156 p=0.004** p=0.23†
≥10mg/l	77 (68, 85) 80/104 p=0.84†	64 (61, 68) 445/696 p<0.0001†	24 (20, 30) 80/331 p=0.018†	95 (93, 97) 445/469 p=0.33†	39 (18, 65) 7/18 p=0.50†	72 (67, 77) 211/294 p<0.0001†	8 (4, 16) 7/90 p=0.62†	95 (92, 98) 211/222 p=0.98†	84 (75, 92) 64/76 p<0.0001** p=0.47†	59 (54, 64) 214/365 p<0.0001** p<0.0001†	30 (24, 37) 64/215 p<0.0001** p=0.054†	95 (91, 98) 214/226 p=0.87** p=0.21†
Smear-negatives												
Cough (any duration)	48 (38, 60) 44/91	73 (70, 77) 542/743	18 (14, 24) 44/245	92 (90, 95) 542/589	40 (17, 68) 6/15	80 (75, 84) 246/309	9 (4, 18) 6/69	96 (94, 99) 246/255	49 (40, 100) 34/69 p=0.52**	68 (64, 73) 265/390 p=0.0010**	21 (16, 29) 34/159 p=0.021**	88 (85, 92) 265/300 p<0.0001**
≥2 weeks	37 (28, 49) 34/91 p<0.13*	83 (81, 86) 618/743 p<0.0001*	21 (16, 29) 34/159 p=0.39*	92 (90, 94) 618/675 p<0.0001*	27 (8, 56) 4/15 p=0.44*	88 (84, 92) 271/309 p=0.0065*	10 (3, 23) 4/42 p=0.88*	96 (94, 99) 271/282 p=0.81*	39 (88, 100) 27/69 p=0.367** p=0.23*	81 (77, 85) 314/390 p=0.011** p<0.0001*	26 (19, 36) 27/103 p=0.026** p=0.37*	88 (85, 92) 314/356 p<0.0001** p=0.96*
W4SS	75 (65, 84) 68/91	49 (46, 53) 362/743	15 (12, 19) 68/449	94 (92, 97) 362/385	47 (22, 74) 7/15	55 (50, 61) 171/309	5 (2, 10) 7/145	96 (92, 99) 171/179	80 (69, 89) 55/69 p=0.0083**	45 (40, 50) 174/390 p=0.0049**	20 (16, 26) 55/271 p<0.0001**	93 (88, 96) 174/188 p=0.23**
CRP ≥5mg/l	84	49	17	96 (94, 98)	67	60	8	97	88	41	21	95

	(75, 92) 74/88	(46, 53) 338/691	(14, 22) 74/427	338/352	(39, 89) 10/15	55, 66) 176/294	(4, 14) 10/128	(94, 100) 176/181	(78, 95) 58/66	(36, 47) 147/360	(17, 27) 58/271	91, 98) 147/155
	p=0.12 [†]	p=0.94 [†]	p=0.38 [†]	p=0.27 [†]	p=0.27 [†]	p=0.26 [†]	p=0.31 [†]	p=0.39 [†]	p=0.043 ** p=0.19 [†]	p<0.0001 ** p=0.29 [†]	p=0.001 ** p=0.75 [†]	p=0.26** p=0.39 [†]
≥10mg/l	74 (64, 83) 65/88	64 (61, 68) 444/691	21 (17, 26) 65/312	95 (93, 97) 444/467	33 (12, 62) 5/15	72 (67, 77) 211/294	6 (2, 13) 5/88	95 (92, 98) 211/221	82 (71, 91) 54/66	59 (54, 65) 213/360	27 (21, 34) 54/201	95 (91, 98) 213/225
	p=0.89 [†]	p<0.0001 [†]	p=0.042 [†]	p=0.50 [†]	p=0.46 [†]	p<0.0001 [†]	p=0.78 [†]	p=0.98 [†]	p<0.0001 ** p=0.76 [†]	p<0.0001 ** p<0.0001 [†]	p<0.0001 ** p=0.094 [†]	p=0.69** p=0.38 [†]

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Within row p-values: **CD4 count >350 vs. ≤350 cells/μl.

Within column p-values: *Any vs. ≥2-week cough, [†]W4SS vs. CRP.

Missing data or not done: no CD4 count within three months (n=76).

Abbreviations: CRP C-reactive protein; CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; TB, tuberculosis; W4SS, World Health

Organization-recommended four-symptom screen.

188 **Appendix Table 5.** Head-to-head diagnostic accuracy of haemoglobin (<10 g/dl) stratified by CD4 count and W4SS statuses. Haemoglobin had
 189 increased sensitivity at lower CD4 cells counts but decreased specificity (same trend observed in W4SS-positives vs. negatives). Non-head-to-
 190 head data are not shown due to the many patients not receiving haemoglobin testing (it was done programmatically). Data are %, 95% CI, and
 191 n/N.

All participants (n=634)				CD4 count >350 cells/μl (n=243)				CD4 count ≤350 cells/μl (n=360)			
Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
31 (22, 43) 25/81	88 (86, 91) 487/553	27 (19, 38) 25/91	90 (87, 93) 487/543	8 (1, 37) 1/13	91 (87, 95) 210/230	5 (1, 24) 1/21	95 (91, 98) 210/222	37 (25, 50) 23/63	86 (81, 90) 254/297	35 (24, 48) 23/66	86 (82, 91) 254/294
p<0.0001† p<0.0001‡	p<0.0001† p<0.0001‡	p=0.041† p=0.52‡	p=0.062† p=0.002‡	p=0.013† p=0.050‡	p<0.0001† p<0.0001‡	p=0.78† p=0.63‡	p=0.97† p=0.83‡	p=0.042* p<0.0001† p<0.0001‡	p=0.042* p<0.0001† p<0.0001‡	p=0.0072* p=0.055† p=0.44‡	p=0.0022* p=0.066† p=0.0022‡
				W4SS-positive (n=354)				W4SS-negative (n=280)			
				39 (28, 53) 25/64	86 (81, 90) 248/290	37 (26, 50) 25/67	86 (82, 91) 248/287	0 (0, 20) 0/17	91 (87, 95) 239/263	0 (0, 15) 0/24	93 (90, 97) 239/256
				p<0.0001**	p<0.0001**	p=0.26**	p<0.0001**	p<0.0001* p=0.0080**	p=0.052* p<0.0001**	p<0.0001* p=0.13**	p=0.0079* p=0.76**

193 Within row p-values: *CD4 count >350 vs. ≤350 cells/μl.
 194 Within column p-values: †haemoglobin vs. W4SS in **Table 2**, ‡haemoglobin vs. CRP (≥10mg/l) in **Table 2** (comparisons within a CD4 count stratum); **haemoglobin vs. CRP
 195 (≥10mg/l) in **Appendix Table 1** (comparisons within a W4SS stratum).
 196 Missing data or not done: CD4 count within three months (n=31); haemoglobin not programmatically done for n=190.
 197 Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; W4SS; World Health Organization-recommended four-symptom
 198 screen.
 199

200 **Appendix Table 6.** AUROCs, rule-in (~95% specificity), rule-out (~95% sensitivity), and Youden index (maximum sum of sensitivity and
 201 specificity) thresholds of W4SS, CRP, and haemoglobin, stratified by W4SS and CD4 count status. CRP had the highest AUROC. AUROCs were
 202 increased in W4SS-positives (vs. -negatives) and in people with CD4 counts >350 cells/ μ l (vs. \leq 350). Haemoglobin followed similar trends. At
 203 rule-out thresholds, no tests met the WHO TPP minimal specificity point estimate of 70%, irrespective of patient group. Data are % (95% CI).

	W4SS			CRP			Haemoglobin			
	Overall									
	AUROC: 0.70 (0.64, 0.75)			AUROC: 0.78 (0.73, 0.84)			AUROC: 0.70 (0.64, 0.75)			
	Threshold (number)	Sensitivity	Specificity	Threshold (mg/l)	Sensitivity	Specificity	Threshold (g/dl)	Sensitivity	Specificity	
Rule-in	≥ 3	32 (25, 40)	89 (87, 91)	>130	31 (20, 36)	95 (93, 96)	<9	13 (8, 21)	95 (93, 97)	
Rule-out	≥ 0	100 (97, 100)	0 (0, 0)	>3	89 (83, 94)	39 (35, 42)	<14	95 (89, 98)	20 (17, 23)	
Youden's index	≥ 2	62 (54, 70)	73 (70, 76)	>18	75 (66, 82)	75 (72, 77)	<13	82 (74, 89)	51 (47, 54)	
				W4SS-positives						
				AUROC: 0.82 (0.77, 0.87)			AUROC: 0.72 (0.65, 0.78)			
Rule-in				>172	30 (22, 40)	95 (93, 97)	<9	23 (15, 33)	95 (92, 97)	
Rule-out				>4	95 (89, 98)	38 (34, 43)	<14	95 (89, 99)	19 (15, 23)	
Youden's index				>18	89 (81, 94)	65 (61, 69)	<12	71 (60, 80)	65 (60, 69)	
				W4SS-negatives						
				AUROC: 0.58 (0.45, 0.70)			AUROC: 0.56 (0.45, 0.68)			
Rule-in				>72	4 (0, 18)	95 (92, 97)	<9	0 (0, 15)	95 (92, 97)	
Rule-out				>3	67 (48, 82)	46 (41, 51)	<14	94 (76, 100)	27 (23, 32)	
Youden's index				>5	58 (40, 75)	61 (56, 65)	Same as rule-out			
				CD4 count >350 cells/μl						
				AUROC: 0.58 (0.42, 0.73)			AUROC: 0.62 (0.47, 0.77)			
Rule-in	≥ 3	93 (90, 95)	22 (8, 44)	>91	95 (92, 97)	17 (5, 38)	<10	0 (0, 21)	95 (92, 97)	
Rule-out	≥ 0	100 (85, 100)	0 (0, 1)	>6	67 (45, 84)	64 (59, 68)	<14	92 (68, 100)	23 (18, 78)	
Youden's index	≥ 2	22 (8, 44)	93 (90, 95)	Same as rule-out			<12	54 (29, 78)	68 (63, 73)	
				CD4 count \leq350 cells/μl						
				AUROC: 0.69 (0.63, 0.76)			AUROC: 0.81 (0.75, 0.86)			
Rule-in	≥ 3	32 (25, 40)	89 (87, 91)	>130	36 (26, 46)	95 (92, 96)	<9	12 (6, 21)	95 (93, 97)	
Rule-out	≥ 0	100 (97, 100)	0 (0, 0)	>3	95 (88, 98)	30 (26, 35)	<14	95 (89, 99)	21 (18, 25)	
Youden's index	≥ 2	62 (54, 70)	73 (70, 76)	>18	82 (73, 89)	70 (65, 74)	<13	83 (74, 90)	50 (45, 54)	

204 Abbreviations: AUROC, area under the receiver operator characteristic curve; CRP, C-reactive protein; CI, confidence interval; W4SS, WHO-recommended four-symptom
 205 screen; WHO, World Health Organization; WHO TTP, World Health Organization target product profile.
 206

207 **Appendix Table 7.** Head-to-head diagnostic accuracy of sputum Xpert and Ultra for TB stratified by CD4 cell count. Each test had higher
 208 sensitivities and similar specificities in people with lower vs. higher CD4 cell counts. Ultra had higher sensitivity than Xpert at CD4 counts ≤ 350
 209 cells/ μ l. We did not sub-stratify CD4 cell counts categories further by smear status given low numbers of index test-detected cases. Data are %,
 210 95% CI, and n/N.

	All (n=787)				CD4 count >350 cells/ μ l (n=304)				CD4 count ≤ 350 cells/ μ l (n=432)			
	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
Smear microscopy	15 (9, 24) 16/104	99 (98, 100) 678/683	76 (53, 92) 16/21	89 (86, 91) 678/766	18 (4, 44) 3/17	100 (99, 100) 287/287	100 (30, 100) 3/3	96 (93, 98) 287/301	13 (7, 23) 10/77 p=0.68*	99 (97, 100) 350/355 p=0.044*	67 (39, 89) 10/15 p=0.24*	84 (81, 88) 350/417 p<0.0001*
Xpert	56 (46, 66) 58/104	99 (98, 100) 676/683	89 (79, 96) 58/65	94 (92, 95) 676/722	30 (11, 56) 5/17	99 (97, 100) 284/287	63 (25, 92) 5/8	96 (94, 98) 284/296	60 (48, 71) 46/77 p=0.023*	99 (98, 100) 351/355 p=0.92*	92 (81, 98) 46/50 p=0.017*	92 (89, 95) 351/382 p=0.031*
Ultra-negative	10 (2, 27) 3/30	99 (98, 100) 663/668	38 (9, 76) 3/8	96 (94, 97) 663/690	0 (0, 31) 0/10	99 (97, 100) 280/283	0 (0, 71) 0/3	97 (94, 98) 280/290	17 (4, 41) 3/18 p=0.17*	99 (98, 100) 342/344 p=0.50*	60 (15, 95) 3/5 p=0.090*	96 (93, 98) 342/357 p=0.62*
Ultra	71 (61, 80) 74/104	98 (96, 99) 668/683	83 (74, 90) 74/89	96 (94, 97) 668/698	42 (19, 68) 7/17	99 (97, 100) 283/287	64 (31, 90) 7/11	97 (94, 99) 283/293	77 (66, 86) 59/77 p=0.0038*	97 (95, 99) 344/355 p=0.16*	85 (74, 92) 59/70 p=0.10*	96 (93, 98) 344/362 p=0.33*
Xpert-negative	41 (27, 57) 19/46	98 (97, 99) 663/676	59 (41, 76) 19/32	96 (94, 97) 663/690	17 (3, 49) 2/12	99 (97, 100) 280/284	34 (5, 78) 2/6	97 (94, 99) 280/290	5 (34, 70) 16/31 p=0.037*	98 (96, 99) 342/351 p=0.31*	64 (43, 83) 16/25 p=0.17*	96 (94, 98) 342/357 p=0.62*

211 Within row p-values: *CD4 count ≤ 350 vs. > 350 cells/ μ l.

212 Within column p-values: †smear vs. Xpert; ‡Xpert vs. Ultra.

213 Missing data or not done: CD4 count (n=74).

214 Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; TB, tuberculosis; Ultra, Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra; Xpert, Xpert
 215 MTB/RIF.

216 **Appendix Table 8.** Diagnostic accuracy of Xpert and Ultra for TB stratified by W4SS status in smear-negative people. Trends were like those
 217 seen overall (**Table 3**). Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.

	Head-to-head											
	All (n=787)				W4SS-positive (n=357)				W4SS-negative (n=430)			
	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV
Xpert	50 (39, 61) 44/88	99 (98, 100) 671/678	86 (74, 94) 44/51	94 (92, 95) 671/715	22 (8, 44) 5/23	100 (98, 100) 328/331	63 (25, 92) 5/8	95 (92, 97) 328/346	60 (48, 72) 39/65 p=0.0016*	99 (98, 100) 343/347 p=0.75*	91 (78, 98) 39/43 p=0.033*	93 (90, 96) 343/369 p=0.31*
Ultra	67 (56, 77) 59/88 p=0.022†	98 (96, 99) 663/678 p=0.089†	80 (69, 88) 59/74 p=0.63†	96 (94, 97) 663/692 p=0.12†	44 (24, 66) 10/23 p=0.12†	99 (97, 100) 327/331 p=0.70†	72 (42, 92) 10/14 p=0.67†	97 (94, 98) 327/340 p=0.39†	76 (64, 86) 49/65 p=0.0051* p=0.061†	97 (95, 99) 336/347 p=0.083*	82 (70, 91) 49/60 p=0.39*	96 (93, 98) 336/352 p=0.64*
Non-head-to-head												
Xpert	50 (39, 61) 44/88	99 (98, 100) 672/679	86 (74, 94) 44/51	94 (92, 95) 672/716	22 (7, 44) 5/23	99 (97, 100) 328/331	63 (24, 91) 5/8	95 (92, 97) 328/346	60 (47, 72) 39/65 p=0.0016*	99 (97, 100) 344/348 p=0.75*	91 (78, 97) 39/43 p=0.033*	93 (90, 95) 344/370 p=0.31*
Ultra	68 (58, 78) 62/91 p=0.014†	98 (97, 99) 725/741 p=0.092†	79 (69, 88) 62/78 p=0.33†	96 (95, 97) 725/754 p=0.043†	76 (65, 86) 52/68 p<0.0001†	97 (95, 98) 367/379 p=0.037†	81 (70, 90) 52/64 p=0.22†	96 (93, 98) 367/383 p=0.51†	43 (23, 66) 10/23 p=0.0033* p=0.17†	99 (97, 100) 358/362 p=0.79*	71 (42, 92) 10/14 p<0.0001* p=0.071†	96 (94, 98) 358/371 p=0.63*

218 Within row p-values: *W4SS-positive vs. -negative.

219 Within column p-values: †Xpert vs. Ultra.

220 Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; Ultra, W4SS, WHO four-symptom screen; Xpert MTB/RIF; Xpert,

221 Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra.

222 **Appendix Table 9.** Non-head-to-head diagnostic accuracy of Xpert and Ultra for TB detection stratified by CD4 count. Non-head-to-head
 223 diagnostic accuracy trends were like that in head-to-head comparisons (**Appendix Table 7**). Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.

	All participants				CD4 count >350 cells/μl				CD4 count ≤350 cells/μl			
	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
Smear microscopy	15 (9, 24) 16/107	100 (99, 100) 743/748	77 (53, 92) 16/21	90 (87, 92) 743/834	17 (4, 42) 3/18	100 (99, 100) 309/309	10 (30, 100) 3/3	95 (93, 98) 309/324	13 (7, 23) 10/79 p=0.41*	99 (98, 100) 390/395 p=0.044*	67 (39, 89) 10/15 p=0.19*	85 (82, 89) 390/459 p<0.0001*
Xpert	56 (46, 66) 58/104 p<0.0001†	99 (98, 100) 677/684 p=0.46†	90 (80, 96) 58/65 p=0.13†	94 (92, 96) 677/723 p=0.0016†	29 (11, 56) 5/17 p=0.37†	99 (97, 100) 284/287 p=0.072†	63 (25, 92) 5/8 p=0.21†	96 (94, 98) 284/296 p=0.73†	60 (48, 71) 46/77 p=0.023*	99 (98, 100) 352/356 p=0.924*	92 (81, 98) 46/50 p=0.017*	92 (89, 95) 352/383 p=0.032*
Smear-negative	50 (40, 61) 44/88	99 (98, 100) 672/679	87 (74, 95) 44/51	94 (92, 96) 672/716	21 (5, 51) 3/14	99 (97, 100) 284/287	50 (12, 89) 3/6	96 (94, 99) 284/295	55 (43, 68) 37/67 p=0.021*	99 (98, 100) 347/351 p=0.91*	90 (77, 98) 37/41 p=0.010*	92 (89, 95) 347/377 p=0.023*
Ultra-negative	10 (3, 27) 3/30	100 (99, 100) 663/668	38 (9, 76) 3/8	97 (95, 98) 663/690	0 (0, 31) 0/10	99 (97, 100) 280/283	0 (0, 71) 0/3	97 (94, 99) 280/290	17 (4, 42) 3/18 p=0.17*	99 (98, 100) 342/344 p=0.50*	60 (15, 95) 3/5 p=0.090*	96 (94, 98) 342/357 p=0.62*
Ultra	72 (63, 81) 77/107 p=0.017‡	97 (95, 98) 730/760 p<0.0001‡	83 (74, 90) 77/93 p=0.26‡	97 (95, 98) 730/760 p=0.035‡	44 (22, 70) 8/18 p=0.36‡	99 (97, 100) 305/309 p=0.78‡	67 (35, 91) 8/12 p=0.85‡	97 (95, 99) 305/315 p=0.56‡	77 (67, 86) 61/79 p=0.0056*	97 (95, 99) 381/393 p=0.12*	84 (74, 92) 61/73 p=0.17*	95 (93, 98) 381/39 p=0.36*
Smear-negative	69 (58, 78) 62/91 p=0.010*	98 (97, 99) 725/741 p=0.092‡	80 (69, 88) 62/78 p=0.33‡	97 (95, 98) 725/754 p=0.035‡	40 (17, 68) 6/15 p=0.21‡	99 (97, 100) 305/309 p=0.78‡	60 (27, 88) 6/10 p=0.69‡	97 (95, 99) 305/314 p=0.55‡	74 (62, 84) 51/69 p=0.011*	97 (95, 99) 376/388 p=0.12*	81 (70, 90) 51/63 p=0.14*	95 (93, 98) 376/394 p=0.24*
Xpert-negative	42 (27, 57) 19/46 p=0.0033‡	99 (97, 99) 663/676 p=0.061‡	60 (41, 77) 19/32 p=0.27‡	97 (95, 98) 663/690 p>0.99‡	17 (3, 49) 2/12 p=0.18‡	99 (97, 100) 280/284 p=0.71‡	33 (5, 78) 2/6 p=0.26‡	97 (94, 99) 280/290 p>0.99‡	52 (34, 70) 16/31 p=0.037*	97 (96, 99) 342/351 p=0.31*	64 (43, 83) 16/25 p=0.17*	96 (94, 98) 342/357 p=0.62*

224 Within row p-values: *CD4 counts ≤350 vs. >350 cells/μl.

225 Within column p-values: †smear vs. Xpert and ‡Xpert vs. Ultra.

226 Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; Ultra, Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra; Xpert, Xpert MTB/RIF.

227 **Appendix Table 10.** Non-head-to-head diagnostic accuracy of Xpert and Ultra for TB overall and stratified by W4SS status. These findings are
 228 like those in the head-to-head analysis (**Table 3**). Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.

	All				W4SS-negative				W4SS-positive			
	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
Smear microscopy	15 (9, 24) 16/107	100 (99, 100) 743/748	77 (53, 92) 16/21	90 (87, 92) 743/834	12 (3, 31) 3/26	100 (99, 100) 362/362	100 (30, 100) 3/3	95 (92, 97) 362/385	17 (9, 26) 13/81 p=0.58*	99 (98, 100) 381/386 p=0.029*	73 (47, 91) 13/18 p=0.29*	85 (82, 89) 381/449 p<0.0001*
Xpert	56 (46, 66) 58/104 p<0.0001†	99 (98, 100) 677/684 p=0.46†	90 (80, 96) 58/65 p=0.13†	94 (92, 96) 677/723 p=0.0016†	27 (12, 48) 7/26 p=0.16†	100 (98, 100) 328/331 p=0.069†	70 (35, 94) 7/10 p=0.28†	95 (92, 97) 328/347 p=0.77†	66 (54, 76) 51/78 p=0.0010* p<0.0001†	99 (98, 100) 349/353 p=0.77*	93 (83, 98) 51/55 p=0.033* p=0.022†	93 (90, 96) 349/376 p=0.35*
Ultra-negative	10 (3, 27) 3/30	100 (99, 100) 663/668	38 (9, 76) 3/8	97 (95, 98) 663/690	0 (0, 24) 0/14	100 (98, 100) 324/327	0 (0, 71) 0/3	96 (94, 98) 324/338	19 (5, 46) 3/16 p=0.088*	100 (98, 100) 339/341 p=0.62*	60 (15, 95) 3/5 p=0.090*	97 (94, 99) 339/352 p=0.76*
Ultra	72 (63, 81) 77/107 p=0.014‡	97 (95, 98) 730/760 p<0.0001‡	83 (74, 90) 77/93 p=0.26‡	97 (95, 98) 730/760 p=0.035‡	47 (27, 67) 12/26 p=0.15‡	99 (98, 100) 358/362 p=0.79‡	75 (48, 93) 12/16 p=0.78‡	97 (94, 98) 358/372 p=0.27‡	81 (70, 89) 65/81 p=0.001* p=0.035‡	97 (95, 99) 372/384 p=0.057*	85 (75, 92) 65/77 p=0.36*	96 (94, 98) 372/388 p=0.79*
Xpert-negative	42 (27, 57) 19/46 p=0.0033‡	99 (97, 99) 663/676 p=0.061‡	60 (41, 77) 19/32 p=0.27‡	97 (95, 98) 663/690 p>0.99‡	27 (10, 52) 5/19 p=0.037‡	99 (97, 100) 324/328 p=0.71‡	56 (22, 87) 5/9 p=0.091‡	96 (94, 98) 324/338 p>0.99‡	52 (32, 72) 14/27 p=0.083*	98 (96, 99) 339/348 p=0.19*	61 (39, 81) 14/23 p=0.78*	97 (94, 99) 339/352 p=0.76*

229 Within row p-values: *W4SS-positive vs. -negative.

230 Within column p-values: †smear vs. Xpert or ‡Xpert vs. Ultra.

231 Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; TB, tuberculosis; Ultra, Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra; W4SS, WHO four-

232 symptom screen; WHO, World Health Organization; Xpert, Xpert MTB/RIF.

233 **Appendix Table 11.** Head-to-head diagnostic accuracy of Xpert and Ultra for TB detection by previous TB status. No specificity differences
 234 occurred when data stratified by previous TB status. Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.

	All (n=787)				No previous TB (n=675)				Previous TB (n=112)			
	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
Xpert	56 (46, 66) 58/104	99 (98, 100) 676/683	89 (79, 96) 58/65	94 (92, 95) 676/722	58 (47, 69) 51/88	99 (98, 100) 581/587	90 (79, 97) 51/57	95 (92, 96) 581/618	44 (20, 70) 7/16 p=0.29*	99 (94, 100) 95/96 p=0.99*	88 (47, 100) 7/8 p=0.87*	91 (84, 96) 95/104 p=0.30*
Smear-negative	50 (39, 61) 44/88	99 (98, 100) 671/678	86 (74, 94) 44/51	94 (92, 95) 671/715	54 (42, 65) 40/75	99 (98, 100) 576/582	87 (74, 96) 40/46	95 (93, 96) 576/611	31 (9, 61) 4/13 p=0.13*	99 (94, 100) 95/96 p=0.99*	80 (28, 99) 4/5 p=0.67*	91 (84, 96) 95/104 p=0.25*
Ultra-negative	10 (2, 27) 3/30	99 (98, 100) 663/668	38 (9, 76) 3/8	96 (94, 97) 663/690	13 (3, 33) 3/24	100 (98, 100) 570/575	38 (9, 76) 3/8	97 (95, 98) 570/591	0 (0, 46) 0/6 p=0.36*	100 (96, 100) 93/93 p=0.37*	Non- calculable -	94 (87, 98) 93/99 p=0.23*
Ultra	71 (61, 80) 74/104 p=0.021 ‡	98 (96, 99) 668/683	83 (74, 90) 74/89	96 (94, 97) 668/698	73 (63, 82) 64/88	98 (97, 99) 575/587	85 (75, 92) 64/76	96 (95, 98) 575/599	63 (35, 85) 10/16 p=0.41* p=0.29‡	97 (91, 99) 93/96 p=0.50* p=0.31‡	77 (46, 95) 10/13 p=0.52* p=0.55‡	94 (87, 98) 93/99 p=0.35* p=0.48‡
Smear-negative	67 (56, 77) 59/88 p=0.022 ‡	98 (96, 99) 668/683	83 (74, 90) 74/89	96 (94, 97) 668/698	70 (58, 80) 52/75	98 (97, 99) 570/582	82 (70, 90) 52/64	97 (95, 98) 570/593	54 (25, 81) 7/13 p=0.27* p=0.23‡	97 (91, 99) 93/96 p=0.51* p=0.31‡	70 (35, 93) 7/10 p=0.41* p=0.68‡	94 (87, 98) 93/99 p=0.32* p=0.48‡
Xpert-negative	41 (27, 57) 19/46 p=0.0033 ‡	98 (97, 99) 663/676	59 (41, 76) 19/32	96 (94, 97) 663/690	44 (28, 61) 16/37	99 (97, 100) 570/581	60 (39, 78) 16/27	97 (95, 98) 570/591	33 (7, 70) 3/9 p=0.59* p=0.11‡	98 (93, 100) 93/95 p=0.89* p=0.16‡	60 (15, 95) 3/5 p=0.98* -	94 (87, 98) 93/99 p=0.23* p>0.99‡

235 Within row p-values: * no previous TB vs. previous TB.

236 Within column p-values: ‡Xpert vs. Ultra.

237 Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; TB, tuberculosis; Ultra, Xpert MTB/RIF; Xpert, Xpert MTB/RIF.

238 **Appendix Table 12.** Effect of different trace re-categorisation strategies (reclassification or exclusion) on Ultra diagnostic accuracy, with
 239 stratification by previous TB status. Both the re-calculated estimate and change (Δ) are shown. In people without previous TB, re-categorising
 240 traces decreased sensitivity (reclassification only) and increases specificity (reclassification and exclusion strategies), while no differences were
 241 seen in people with previous TB. Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.

	All (n=787)			No previous TB (n= 675)			Previous TB (n=112)		
	Overall	Trace reclassified	Trace excluded	Overall	Trace reclassified	Trace excluded	Overall	Trace reclassified	Trace excluded
Sensitivity	71 (61, 80) 74/104	66 (57, 76) 69/104 -5 (-10, 0) p=0.45 [†]	70 (60, 79) 69/99 -1 (-11, 14) p=0.82 [†] p=0.61 [‡]	73 (63, 82) 64/88	67 (57, 77) 59/88 -6 (-12, 0) p=0.41 [†]	71 (61, 81) 59/83 -2 (-15, 12) p=0.81 [†] p=0.57 [‡]	63 (35, 85) 10/16 p=0.41 [*]	63 (35, 85) 10/16 0 (-6, 6) p=0.72 [*] p>0.99 [†]	63 (35, 85) 10/16 0 (-6, 6) p=0.49 [*] p>0.99 [†] p>0.99 [‡]
Specificity	98 (96, 99) 668/683	99 (99, 100) 679/683 1 (1, 3) p=0.011[†]	99 (99, 100) 668/672 1 (0, 3) p=0.012[†] p=0.98 [‡]	98 (97, 99) 575/587	99 (99, 100) 584/587 2 (0, 3) p=0.019[†]	99 (99, 100) 575/578 2 (0, 3) p=0.021[†] p=0.99 [‡]	97 (91, 99) 93/96 p=0.50 [*]	99 (94, 100) 95/96 2 (-2, 6) p=0.53 [*] p=0.16 [†]	99 (94, 100) 93/94 2 (-2, 6) p=0.52 [*] p=0.32 [†] p=0.99 [‡]
PPV	83 (74, 90) 74/89	95 (87, 99) 69/73 11 (2, 21) p=0.025[†]	95 (87, 99) 69/73 11 (2, 21) p=0.025[†] p>0.99 [‡]	85 (75, 92) 64/76	95 (87, 99) 59/62 11 (1, 21) p=0.040[†]	95 (87, 99) 59/62 11 (1, 21) p=0.004[†] p>0.99 [‡]	77 (46, 95) 10/13 p=0.52 [*]	91 (59, 100) 10/11 13 (-15, 43) p=0.57 [*] p=0.36 [†]	91 (59, 100) 10/11 13 (-15, 43) p=0.57 [*] p=0.36 [†] p>0.99 [‡]
NPV	96 (94, 97) 668/698	95 (94, 97) 679/714 -1 (-3, 2) p=0.59 [†]	96 (94, 98) 668/698 0 (-2, 2) p>0.99 [†] p=0.59 [‡]	96 (95, 98) 575/599	95 (94, 97) 584/613 -1 (-3, 2) p=0.54 [†]	96 (95, 98) 575/599 p>0.99 [†] p=0.54 [‡]	94 (87, 98) 93/99 p=0.35 [*]	94 (88, 98) 95/101 0 (-6, 6) p=0.60 [*] p=0.97 [†]	94 (87, 98) 93/99 0 (-7, 7) p=0.35 [*] p>0.99 [†] p=0.97 [‡]

242 Within row p-values: *No previous TB vs. previous TB; [†]vs. overall in participants of the same previous TB status; [‡]trace reclassified vs. excluded.
 243 Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; TB, tuberculosis; Ultra, Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra.

244 **Appendix Table 13.** Diagnostic accuracy of urine tests (LF-LAM, concentrated Ultra) for TB overall and by W4SS status (head-to-head and non-
 245 head-to-head data). Urine Ultra and LF-LAM had similar sensitivity and specificity overall and by W4SS. A positive Ultra had higher PPV in
 246 W4SS-positives vs. -negatives, including in LF-LAM-negatives. Similarly, Ultra and LF-LAM had higher NPVs in W4SS-negatives vs. positives.
 247 Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.
 248

	Head-to-head											
	All participants (n=732)				W4SS-negative (n=339)				W4SS-positive (n=393)			
	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
LF-LAM	15 (9, 24) 14/97	99 (98, 100) 623/635	61 (39, 81) 14/23	89 (86, 91) 626/709	9 (2, 29) 2/23	100 (98, 100) 313/316	40 (6, 86) 2/5	94 (91, 97) 313/334	17 (9, 27) 12/74 p=0.37*	99 (96, 100) 313/319 p=0.32*	67 (41, 87) 12/18 p=0.28*	84 (80, 88) 313/375 p<0.0001*
Conc. Ultra-negatives	9 (4, 18) 6/73	99 (98, 100) 619/628	40 (17, 68) 6/15	91 (88, 93) 619/686	5 (1, 25) 1/20	100 (98, 100) 309/312	25 (1, 81) 1/4	95 (92, 97) 309/328	10 (4, 21) 5/53 p=0.54*	99 (96, 100) 310/316 p=0.32*	46 (17, 77) 5/11 p=0.48*	87 (83, 90) 310/358 p<0.0001*
Conc. Ultra	25 (17, 35) 24/97	99 (98, 100) 628/635	78 (59, 91) 24/31	90 (88, 92) 628/701	14 (3, 34) 3/23	99 (97, 100) 312/316	43 (10, 82) 3/7	94 (91, 97) 312/332	29 (19, 41) 21/74 p=0.14*	100 (98, 100) 316/319 p=0.69*	88 (68, 98) 21/24 p=0.013*	86 (82, 90) 316/369 p<0.0001*
LF-LAM-negatives	p=0.070** 20 (12, 30) 16/83	p=0.25** 99 (98, 100) 619/626	p=0.19** 70 (48, 87) 16/23	p=0.44** 91 (88, 93) 619/686	p=0.64** 10 (2, 31) 2/21	p=0.70** 99 (97, 100) 309/313	p=0.92** 34 (5, 78) 2/6	p=0.89** 95 (92, 97) 309/328	p=0.076** 23 (13, 35) 14/62 p=0.19*	p=0.31** 100 (98, 100) 310/313 p=0.69*	p=0.10** 83 (57, 97) 14/17 p=0.025*	p=0.41** 87 (83, 90) 310/358 p<0.0001*
	p=0.048 †	p=0.62†	p=0.071†	p>0.99†	p=0.58†	p=0.71†	p=0.78†	p>0.99†	p=0.058†	p=0.32†	p=0.041 †	p>0.99†
	Non-head-to-head											
LF-LAM	16 (9, 4) 16/106	99 (98, 100) 732/745	56 (36, 74) 16/29	90 (87, 92) 732/822	8 (1, 26) 2/26	99 (97, 100) 356/362	25 (4, 66) 2/8	94 (91, 96) 356/380	18 (10, 28) 14/80 p=0.23*	99 (97, 100) 376/383 p=0.86*	67 (44, 86) 14/21 p=0.044*	86 (82, 89) 376/442 p<0.0001*
Conc. Ultra-negatives	9 (4, 18) 6/73	99 (98, 100) 732/745	34 (14, 60) 6/18	91 (88, 93) 616/683	5 (1, 25) 1/20	99 (97, 100) 356/362	15 (1, 58) 1/7	95 (92, 97) 306/325	10 (4, 21) 5/53 p=0.54*	99 (97, 100) 376/383 p=0.86*	46 (17, 77) 5/11 p=0.17*	87 (83, 90) 310/358 p=0.001*
Conc. Ultra	25 (17, 35) 24/97	99 (98, 100) 629/636	78 (59, 91) 24/31	90 (88, 92) 629/702	14 (3, 34) 3/23	99 (97, 100) 312/316	43 (10, 382) 3/7	94 (91, 9 7) 312/332	29 (19, 41) 21/74 p=0.137*	100 (98, 100) 317/320 p=0.692*	88 (68, 98) 21/24 p=0.013*	86 (82, 90) 317/370 p<0.0001*
LF-LAM-negatives	p=0.084** 20 (12, 30) 16/83	p=0.32** 99 (98, 100) 616/623	p=0.068** 70 (48, 87) 16/23	p=0.73** 91 (88, 93) 616/683	p=0.54** 10 (2, 31) 2/21	p=0.67** 99 (97, 100) 306/310	p=0.46** 34 (5, 78) 2/6	p=0.87** 95 (92, 97) 306/325	p=0.11** 23 (13, 35) 14/62 p=0.19*	p=0.32** 100 (98, 100) 310/313 p=0.69*	p=0.094** 83 (57, 97) 14/17 p=0.025*	p=0.81** 87 (83, 90) 310/358 p<0.0001*

	p=0.048[†]	p=0.34 [†]	p=0.021[†]	p>0.99 [†]	p=0.58 [†]	p=0.69 [†]	p=0.42 [†]	p>0.99 [†]	p=0.058 [†]	p=0.338 [†]	p=0.041[†]	p>0.99 [†]
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249 Within row p-values: *W4SS-positive vs. -negatives.

250 Within column p-values: **LF-LAM vs. conc. Ultra; [†]LF-LAM in Ultra-negatives vs. Ultra in LF-LAM-negatives.

251 Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; Conc., concentrated; LF-LAM, Determine TB LAM Ag test (LF-LAM), NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive

252 value; TB, tuberculosis, Ultra, Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra; W4SS, WHO-recommended four-symptom screen.

253 **Appendix Table 14.** Number of people who could expectorate different numbers of sputum
 254 specimens (≥ 1 ml each). Whether people could naturally expectorate sputum before induction
 255 was offered was only successfully recorded for the last 163 patients (**Methods**) and, of these,
 256 five did not have any culture attempted due to human error and are omitted (the number of
 257 sputa induction successfully produced are specified in the footnote). The proportion of people
 258 with a culture-positive result is shown overall and stratified by W4SS status. All people who
 259 received induction could produce at least one induced sputum. Data are % (n/N).

	No. expectorated sputa			
	None [†] (i.e., induction attempted for all sputa)	≥ 1	≥ 2	≥ 3 (i.e., no induction required)
Overall	31 (49/158)	69 (109/158)	64 (101/158)	62 (98/158)
Culture-positive*	20 (10/49)	16 (17/105)	15 (15/97)	14 (14/94)
W4SS-negative	20 (11/55)	80 (44/55)	73 (40/55)	71 (39/55)
Culture-positive	0 (0/11)	7 (3/44)	5 (2/40)	5 (2/39)
W4SS-positive	37 (38/103)	63 (65/103)	59 (61/103)	57 (59/103)
Culture-positive	26 (10/38)	23 (14/61)	23 (13/57)	22 (12/55)

260 *Four patients with only contaminated cultures excluded from culture-positivity rate calculation.

261 †Number of sputum produced as a result of induction in people who could not expectorate any: 7/49 (14%), 5/49
 262 (10%) and 37/49 (76%) people produced 1, 2, or 3 induced sputa, respectively.

263 Abbreviations: TB, tuberculosis; W4SS, WHO-recommended four-symptom screen.

264 **Appendix Table 15.** Yield (proportion of people with at least one positive confirmatory test
 265 result detected by a test) and sensitivity and specificity of individual tests according to whether
 266 people could expectorate. For each test, yield, sensitivity, and specificity did not differ based
 267 on whether a person was able to expectorate sputum, however, this conclusion is limited by the
 268 relatively small number of people with a positive test result in the subset of people with sputum
 269 expectoration status information. Data are %, 95% CI, and n/N.

	All participants	Expectorator	Required induction			
Yield						
<i>Sputum</i>						
Xpert	59 (39, 76) 17/29	55 (32, 77) 11/20	67 (30, 93) 6/9			
Ultra	66 (46, 82) 19/29	65 (41, 85) 13/20	67 (30, 93) 6/9			
Culture	83 (64, 94) 24/29	80 (56, 94) 16/20	89 (52, 100) 8/9			
<i>Urine</i>						
Ultra*	34 (18, 54) 10/29	25 (9, 49) 5/20	56 (21, 86) 5/9			
LF-LAM	24 (10, 44) 7/29	15 (3, 38) 3/20	44 (14, 79) 4/9			
Sensitivity and specificity						
	Sensitivity	Specificity	Sensitivity	Specificity	Sensitivity	Specificity
<i>Sputum</i>						
Xpert	67 (45, 84) 16/24	99 (94, 100) 96/97	63 (35, 85) 10/16	98 (92, 100) 63/64	75 (35, 97) 6/8	100 (89, 100) 33/33
Ultra	75 (53, 90) 18/24	99 (94, 100) 97/98	75 (48, 93) 12/16	98 (92, 100) 63/64	75 (35, 97) 6/8	100 (90, 100) 34/34
<i>Urine</i>						
Conc. Ultra	32 (14, 55) 7/22	100 (96, 100) 84/84	21 (5, 51) 3/14	100 (94, 100) 57/57	50 (16,84) 4/8	100 (87, 100) 27/27
LF-LAM	25 (10, 47) 6/24	99 (94, 100) 97/98	13 (2, 38) 2/16	98 (92, 100) 63/64	50 (16,84) 4/8	100 (90, 100) 34/34

270
 271 *Conc. and unconc. positive results included.
 272 Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; Conc., concentrated; LF-LAM, Determine TB LAM Ag test, NPV,
 273 negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; TB, tuberculosis, Ultra, Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra;
 274 Unconc., unconcentrated; W4SS, WHO-recommended four-symptom screen.

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296

Section & Topic	No	Item	Reported on page #
TITLE OR ABSTRACT			
	1	Identification as a study of diagnostic accuracy using at least one measure of accuracy (such as sensitivity, specificity, predictive values, or AUC)	3-4 (abstract); 12 (results)
ABSTRACT			
	2	Structured summary of study design, methods, results, and conclusions (for specific guidance, see STARD for Abstracts)	3-4
INTRODUCTION			
	3	Scientific and clinical background, including the intended use and clinical role of the index test	9 (methods)
	4	Study objectives and hypotheses	7-8 (introduction)
METHODS			
<i>Study design</i>	5	Whether data collection was planned before the index test and reference standard were performed (prospective study) or after (retrospective study)	Prospective; 9 (methods)
<i>Participants</i>	6	Eligibility criteria	9
	7	On what basis potentially eligible participants were identified (such as symptoms, results from previous tests, inclusion in registry)	9
	8	Where and when potentially eligible participants were identified (setting, location and dates)	9
	9	Whether participants formed a consecutive, random or convenience series	9-11
<i>Test methods</i>	10a	Index test, in sufficient detail to allow replication	9-11
	10b	Reference standard, in sufficient detail to allow replication	9-10
	11	Rationale for choosing the reference standard (if alternatives exist)	9
	12a	Definition of and rationale for test positivity cut-offs or result categories of the index test, distinguishing pre-specified from exploratory	9; 2, Appendix
	12b	Definition of and rationale for test positivity cut-offs or result categories of the reference standard, distinguishing pre-specified from exploratory	2, Appendix
	13a	Whether clinical information and reference standard results were available to the performers/readers of the index test	10
	13b	Whether clinical information and index test results were available to the assessors of the reference standard	10
<i>Analysis</i>	14	Methods for estimating or comparing measures of diagnostic accuracy	10
	15	How indeterminate index test or reference standard results were handled	Appendix 2
	16	How missing data on the index test and reference standard were handled	14
	17	Any analyses of variability in diagnostic accuracy, distinguishing pre-specified from exploratory	14-16
	18	Intended sample size and how it was determined	4, Appendix
RESULTS			
<i>Participants</i>	19	Flow of participants, using a diagram	23-24 Figure 1, 2
	20	Baseline demographic and clinical characteristics of participants	28, Table 1
	21a	Distribution of severity of disease in those with the target condition	28, Table 1
	21b	Distribution of alternative diagnoses in those without the target condition	N/A
	22	Time interval and any clinical interventions between index test and reference standard	10
<i>Test results</i>	23	Cross tabulation of the index test results (or their distribution) by the results of the reference standard	33-35, Table 2-3; 12-19, Appendix Tables 1-5; 21-28, Appendix Tables 7-13
	24	Estimates of diagnostic accuracy and their precision (such as 95% confidence intervals)	12-15
	25	Any adverse events from performing the index test or the reference standard	10
DISCUSSION			
	26	Study limitations, including sources of potential bias, statistical uncertainty, and generalisability	19-20
	27	Implications for practice, including the intended use and clinical role of the index test	18

OTHER INFORMATION		
28	Registration number and name of registry	NCT03187964
29	Where the full study protocol can be accessed	9-11
30	Sources of funding and other support; role of funders	11; 21-22

STARD 2015

AIM

STARD stands for “Standards for Reporting Diagnostic accuracy studies”. This list of items was developed to contribute to the completeness and transparency of reporting of diagnostic accuracy studies. Authors can use the list to write informative study reports. Editors and peer-reviewers can use it to evaluate whether the information has been included in manuscripts submitted for publication.

EXPLANATION

A **diagnostic accuracy study** evaluates the ability of one or more medical tests to correctly classify study participants as having a **target condition**. This can be a disease, a disease stage, response or benefit from therapy, or an event or condition in the future. A medical test can be an imaging procedure, a laboratory test, elements from history and physical examination, a combination of these, or any other method for collecting information about the current health status of a patient.

The test whose accuracy is evaluated is called **index test**. A study can evaluate the accuracy of one or more index tests. Evaluating the ability of a medical test to correctly classify patients is typically done by comparing the distribution of the index test results with those of the **reference standard**. The reference standard is the best available method for establishing the presence or absence of the target condition. An accuracy study can rely on one or more reference standards.

If test results are categorized as either positive or negative, the cross tabulation of the index test results against those of the reference standard can be used to estimate the **sensitivity** of the index test (the proportion of participants *with* the target condition who have a positive index test), and its **specificity** (the proportion *without* the target condition who have a negative index test). From this cross tabulation (sometimes referred to as the contingency or “2x2” table), several other accuracy statistics can be estimated, such as the positive and negative **predictive values** of the test. Confidence intervals around estimates of accuracy can then be calculated to quantify the statistical **precision** of the measurements.

If the index test results can take more than two values, categorization of test results as positive or negative requires a **test positivity cut-off**. When multiple such cut-offs can be defined, authors can report a receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve which graphically represents the combination of sensitivity and specificity for each possible test positivity cut-off. The **area under the ROC curve** informs in a single numerical value about the overall diagnostic accuracy of the index test.

The **intended use** of a medical test can be diagnosis, screening, staging, monitoring, surveillance, prediction or prognosis. The **clinical role** of a test explains its position relative to existing tests in the clinical pathway. A replacement test, for example, replaces an existing test. A triage test is used before an existing test; an add-on test is used after an existing test.

Besides diagnostic accuracy, several other outcomes and statistics may be relevant in the evaluation of medical tests. Medical tests can also be used to classify patients for purposes other than diagnosis, such as staging or prognosis. The STARD list was not explicitly developed for these other outcomes, statistics, and study types, although most STARD items would still apply.

DEVELOPMENT

This STARD list was released in 2015. The 30 items were identified by an international expert group of methodologists, researchers, and editors. The guiding principle in the development of STARD was to select items that, when reported, would help readers to judge the potential for bias in the study, to appraise the applicability of the study findings and the validity of conclusions and recommendations. The list represents an update of the first version, which was published in 2003.

More information can be found on <http://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/stard>.

