

National Guidelines on External Quality Assessment - LQAS for Sputum AFB Microscopy

National Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory

Department of Public Health, Myanmar

3rd Edition March, 2025

This National Guidelines was prepared by National TB Reference Laboratory, National Tuberculosis Programme (NTP) in 2015.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With the commitment of the Ministry of Health, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar the first version of "National Guidelines on External Quality Assessment for AFB Microscopy" was developed in the year (2007). We thanked Mr. Somsak Rienthong, Head, National TB Reference Laboratory, Bangkok, Thailand for his valuable advice and the Major Infectious Disease Control Project, JICA for supporting the development and dissemination process of the first version book of NTP, Myanmar.

We would like to acknowledge Mrs. Akiko Fujiki (JATA) for her appreciated advice for development of this second version of National Guidelines on External Quality Assessment for sputum AFB Microscopy (2015). This book is updated with addition of Fluorescence Microscopy work.

We are also grateful to the Director (Laboratory Services), the Deputy Directors and Microbiologists from National TB Program and National Health Laboratory, Yangon for proofreading. Last but not the least to TB Officers and Senior TB Laboratory Supervisors for their active participation and suggestions given at the Workshop on Improvement of Quality Assurance System for AFB Microscopy.

Preface

Tuberculosis is a chronic infectious disease which is still a major global health problem

especially in the less developed regions of the world including Myanmar. For the National

Tuberculosis Program, the diagnosis as well as monitoring of treatment progress of tuberculosis

depends mainly on sputum AFB microscopy.

To have a correct result, the skill of technicians for smear preparation, staining and

smear reading play an important role. To improve the quality of work and then to maintain it,

microscopy performance needs regular monitoring.

NTP developed the first guidelines on "External Quality Assessment-LQAS for sputum

AFB Microscopy" in 2007. In the first book only the Ziehl Neelsen method was mentioned. In

2012 NTP introduced Fluorescence microscopy as an additional tool. Fluorescence microscopy

gains more sensitivity and quick reading than bright field microscopy, thus less time is needed

for examination.

To assess smear preparation quality, bright field microscopy with Ziehl-Neelsen

staining method has six (6) check points termed specimen, staining, cleanliness, size, thickness,

and evenness but Fluorescence microscopy can be assessed by five (5) check points except

quality of staining. The reporting scale for reading Fluorescence microscopy also differs from

that with Ziehl-Neelsen microscopy.

This guideline is a useful tool to have correct results for both Bright field microscopy and

Fluorescence microscopy and will be beneficial in our fight against tuberculosis.

Dr.Swe Sett

Deputy Director General (Laboratory)

Abbreviations

AFB Acid Fast Bacilli

APHL Association of Public Health Laboratories

CDC Centers for Disease Control

EQA External Quality Assessment

FM Fluorescence Microscopy

FN False Negative
FP False Positive
HC Health Center

IUATLD International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease

JICA Japan International Cooperation Agency

KNCV Koninklijke Nederlandse Cetrale Vereniging ter Bestrijding

van tuberculose [KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation]

LQAS Lot Quality Assurance System

Lab MO Laboratory Medical Officer

MO Medical Officer

Msp Microscopist

NTP National Tuberculosis Programme

NTRL National Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory

QA Quality Assurance
QC Quality Control

QE Quantification Error

RIT Research Institute of Tuberculosis

SPR Slide Positivity Rate

STLS Senior Tuberculosis Laboratory Supervisor

TMO Township Medical Officer

VF Visual Field

WHO World Health Organization

WPRO Western Pacific Regional Office

ZN Ziehl- Neelsen

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INTRODUCTION

In many high TB burden settings, sputum-smear microscopy remains the primary diagnostic technique for evaluating individuals presenting with the signs and symptoms of TB. WHO recommends that TB programmes should use mWRD as the initial diagnostic test for detecting MTBC rather than routine smear microscopy.

The establishment of a broad network of well-functioning peripheral laboratories within the context of the health system and readily accessible to the population is a high priority for any tuberculosis programme. The National Tuberculosis Programme (NTP) has made considerable advances in its effort to control TB in Myanmar. Since 1997 NTP utilizes the DOTS strategy. The NTP activities are implemented through an integration approach with primary health care services. Nationwide DOTS coverage was achieved by the end of Year 2003.

Microscopy errors are likely to result in failure to detect persons with infectious tuberculosis who will then continue to spread infection in the community or giving unnecessary treatment for "non-cases". Errors in reading of follow-up smears may result in patients being placed on prolonged treatment, or in treatment being discontinued prematurely. Therefore quality assurance of laboratory services including AFB smear microscopy is essential.

Quality Assurance (QA) is a system designed to continuously improve the reliability and efficiency of laboratory services. As defined by both the WHO and the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, a quality assurance programme for AFB smear microscopy has several components. QA is a total system consisting of internal quality control (QC) (where internal monitoring of working practices, technical procedures, equipment, and materials including quality of stains), assessment of performance using external quality assurance (EQA) methods, and continuous quality improvement (QI) of laboratory services.

Since 1997 NTP, Myanmar started to develop the framework for the implementation of quality assessment activities using conventional method in which all positive slides and 10% of the negative slides examined are checked. It was expanded to all regions and states in 1999. The big number of slides examined for quality checking made burden on STLSs so that new EQA method based on Lot Quality Assurance System (LQAS)* was introduced in 2007. Sample size was fixed as six slides per month for cross checking according to national TB figures. In 2010 it was conducted in the whole country with different sample sizes for each microscopy center covering both public and private laboratories.

The focus of EQA is on the identification of laboratories where there may be serious problems resulting in poor performance, not on the identification of individual slide errors or the validation of individual patient diagnosis. It is also an important tool for communication with and motivation of laboratory technicians who may otherwise feel isolated in their work. Three methods that can and should be combined to evaluate laboratory performances are:

- On-site Evaluation
- Panel Testing
- Blinded Rechecking

On-site Evaluation

Visits to the peripheral laboratories by trained laboratory personnel from the reference State/Regional laboratory are essential to obtain a realistic assessment of the conditions and skills practiced in the laboratory.

On-site visits by experienced people from a higher-level laboratory provide an opportunity for immediate problem solving, corrective action and on-site retraining.

When poor performance has been identified through on-site evaluation, blinded rechecking or panel testing and additional visits from a higher level laboratory are mandatory.

Frequency of On-site evaluation

Supervision		
From	To	Frequency
Central	State /Region	Annually, whenever rechecking detects major error
State /Region	District	At least, 6 monthly Whenever rechecking detects major error
District	Township, RHC	At least quarterly, whenever rechecking detects major error

Panel Testing

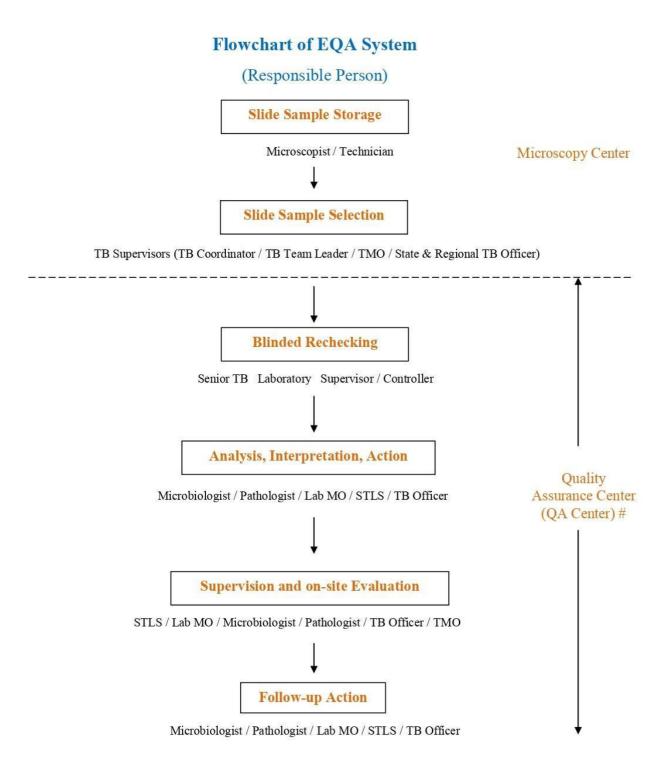
Panel testing is a method of EQA that is used to determine whether a laboratory technician can adequately perform AFB smear microscopy. This method evaluates individual performance in staining and reading but not all the laboratory activities. Utilization of panel testing for EQA is less effective than random blinded rechecking of routine slides because it does not monitor routine performance.

In Myanmar for AFB Microscopy panel testing is used under NHL / NTP for State and Regional Hospitals and TB Centers because these institutions do not have routine slides for blinded rechecking. Panel testing is performed to Senior TB Laboratory Supervisors (STLS) who are Laboratory Officers, Medical Technologists and Senior technicians from State and Regional Level designated by The Ministry of Health. Panel testing is not performed as a routine to other level laboratories, as they will have regular on-site evaluation and blinded rechecking by STLS.

Blinded Rechecking

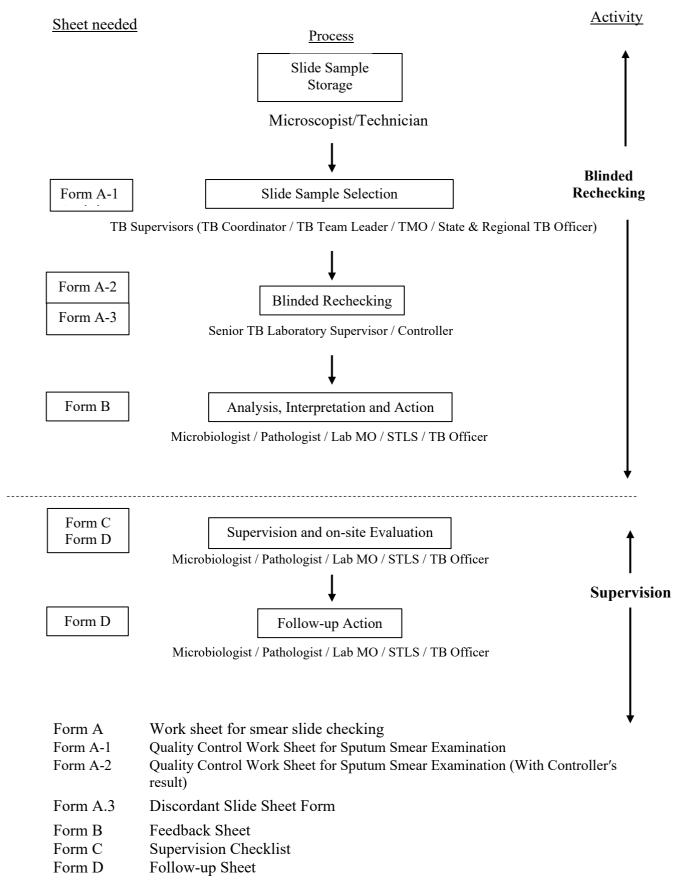
Blinded rechecking is a process of rereading a sample of slides from a laboratory to assess whether that laboratory has an acceptable level of performance.

Pilot studies had been carried out at Yangon and Mandalay Regions on EQA-(LQAS) System and found that this system can be applied in Myanmar provided there is a national guideline and necessary training given to TB Supervisors. At least once in a quarter visit to the district and peripheral laboratories by TB Supervisors from State and Regional level is required. Laboratory Officials from Central (NTRL) must visit to State and Regional Level at least once in a year.



[#] QA Center is located at State and Regional level Laboratories and is responsible for effective implementation of quality assurance on AFB microscopy services of peripheral laboratories within its State and Region

Flowchart of EQA System (Required forms and activities)



Operating Procedures

(1) Slide Sample Storage

Responsible person: Microscopist / Laboratory technician

- Remove the oil from the slide with Xylene (needed for slides used by ZN staining method).
- Store all the examined slides chronologically in the slide box as in TB laboratory register until slides are selected and keep away from direct sunlight.

(2) Slide Sample Selection

Responsible person: TB Supervisors – State & Regional TB Officer/

TB Coordinator / TB Team Leader / TMO / who are called slide selector.

- Microscopist / Technician together with the slide boxes, TB Laboratory Register and Form A has to go to the slide selector.
- Select slide samples as determined for a month for each center.
- If the slides examined for one month is less than six (6), all slides must be taken.
- Select the slides from TB Laboratory Register as instructed in Page 9. Ensure that the result is not written on the slide.
- If a particular slide is broken or missing, take the next slide.
- Enter the details of slides in Form A (see Example. 1). This will be known as

Form A data sheet.

- Take out the selected slides in sequence and transfer to the smaller slide box in the presence of the supervisor (the slide selector).
- Write the name of the microscopy center and month on the slide box.
- Pack the slide box and send it with Form A data sheet to the QA center.
- Leave a duplicate of Form A at the microscopy center.
- Discard all the remaining slides in the slide boxes.

(3) Blinded -Rechecking

Responsible person: STLS /Controller

- Handover the slides and Form A, to the Responsible person of the QA center.
- Record the name of microscopy center, month and slide numbers (but not results) in a new Form A.
- Give the slides together with this new Form A to the Controller, who must not be the person responsible for data entry.

- For QC slides used by the Ziehl-Neelsen (ZN) staining method. The controller must check the quality of smear preparation based on six (6) assessment points both macroscopically and microscopically.
- Read with a bright field microscope to check capability of reading and enter the results in Form A (see Example. 2). This will be known as Form A result sheet.
- All discordant ZN QC slides must be re-stained with the ZN staining method and read again with a bright field microscope.
- For QC slides used by Fluorescence staining method. The controller must check the quality of smear preparation based on five (5) assessment points both macroscopically and microscopically.
- Re-stain all FM QC slides with Fluorescence staining method to check capability of reading.
- Read with a fluorescence microscope and enter the results in Form A result sheet.
- Give the Form A result sheet together with examined slides to the Responsible person of QA center.
- The controller must complete re-reading within one week after receiving the slides. (Note: For the ZN staining method. All QC slides must be retained after smear assessment in special occasions like MCs where a less experienced person performs FM microscopy or poor quality stains are used.)

(4) Analysis, Interpretation and Action to be taken

Responsible person: Microbiologist / Pathologist / Lab MO / MO / STLS

- The responsible person transcribes the peripheral laboratory results from the data sheet to result sheet.(See Form A Example. 3)
- In case of discrepancy, ask / request the same or another controller to examine the discordant slide and verify the results by using Form A.3 known as discordant slide sheet (see Form A Example. 4)
- Keep all discordant slides for discussion during the next supervisory visit.
- Discard the remaining slides.
- Record the assessment results in Feedback Sheet (Form B).
- Make analysis and interpretation on smear reading and smear preparation by a responsible person.
- Calculate the overall proportion of good / poor smear preparation.
- Include likely explanations as well as suggestions for corrective actions in the feedback.
 Praise good work. Provide feedback for the discordant slides.

- Review any detected error as a potential indicator of diminished competency and investigate further.
 - Note :(1) Major errors are seen, it means the need for prompt on-site supervision and also re-training of technicians.
 - (2) An occasional minor error (quantification) is not a problem, but if this occurs repeatedly or if smear preparation quality is continuously below the acceptable standard of 90%, the laboratory performance should be reassessed.

(5) On- Site Evaluation/ Feedback/ Follow-up

- QA center makes supervisory visit to the microscopy center at least quarterly based on Feedback sheet (Form B). Emphasis is placed on the identification and correction of error found in rechecking. Major error indicates a serious defect in microscopy service of that center. Therefore, once the major error is identified, action must be taken immediately by the QA center, that is within 7 to 10 days after rechecking.
- Send the filled Form B Sheet within 2 4 weeks by postal service either to TMO or TB Team Leader who is responsible person of the respective microscopy center. This sheet must be shown to the technician so that he/she will know the mistakes and corrections to be made.
- During supervisory visit take along the discordant slides and fill Form B of that microscopy center for discussion. Record findings, recommendations and actions taken in the Follow-up Sheet (Form D) as reference for the next field visit.
- Leave a duplicate of Form D at the microscopy center.
- The Supervision Checklist for TB Laboratory (Form C) needs to be filled at quarterly visit.

(6) Monitoring purposes

- The consolidated data sheets of each microscopy center (Form 1 and Form 2) are useful to assess the condition and progress of that participating laboratory. Data must be filled monthly or quarterly at QA Center. Regular entry of results is needed for midterm and annual report.
- The consolidated data sheets of each QA Center (Form 3 and Form 4) at State and Regional level will help the State/ Regional TB Officer to monitor the situation of laboratory performance as a whole. This will also indicate the laboratory which needs attention and refresher training.

Determination of sample size in Myanmar

In Myanmar, LQAS (Lot Quality Assurance System) sampling method is adopted with 80% sensitivity, 100% specificity and acceptance error (d) = zero (0).Based on the Table "Recommended annual sample sizes." (See in Appendices) NTP, Myanmar makes Simplified Table of Monthly Sample Sizes (See the Table below) in 2009. Calculation of sample sizes will be made based on annual negative slides and slide positivity rates for each and every microscopy center. The sample sizes will be revised every 3 years.

Since 2010 the NTP, Myanmar started different sample sizes for each and every microscopy center and therefore will be reviewed once every three (3) years. If there is any change, it will be informed.

Simplified Table of Monthly Sample Sizes

Number of	Slide positivity Rate								
Negative Slides/year	< 7.50% - 7.50%	7.51% - 12.50%	12.51% - >12.51%						
	Number of slides for rechecking								
>500	13	7	6						
501-1000	15	8	6						
>1000	18	9	6						

(80% sensitivity, 100% specificity, '0' acceptance number)

Procedure for Slide Selection

Example:

Today is 15th Sep,2023

- You are going to select the slides examined for the month of Aug 2023.
- Number of slides to be selected for the month is 6 (six).

The technician must bring the slide boxes and TB Laboratory Register to the person who will select the slides.

- 1) Check the TB Laboratory Register, and determine the number of smear examined in Aug,2023
- 2) Total number of smears examined is (e.g. 210). Count the number of slides in the slide boxes to make sure there are 210 slides.

Total number of slides examined 210

3) Sampling interval is _____ = ___ = 35

Number of slides to be selected 6

- 4) Choose any number below the sampling interval (between 1 to 35).
- 5) Say 3. Therefore, the first slide to be taken is 3rd. slide from the slide box. Then make a circle on the TB Laboratory Register every 35th. Slide counting from 3rd slide.

i.e. 3, 38, 73, 108, 143 and 178.

- 6) Ask the technician to do the following:
 - a) take out the above slides and put it in a new slide box.
 - b) to fill Form A (The Slide Selector must sign on the form to prove that the slide selection is made by him / her. Signature of lab technician must also be included.
 - c) to discard the remaining slides in the slide boxes.
- 7) Keep the carbon copy of Form A at the Microscopy Center.
 Send the slides together with filled Form A to the QA Center.

AFB Slide Reading

WHO and IUATLD recommended quantification scale

Reporting scale for Bright Field Microscopy (Ziehl - Neelsen Method) 1,000 X magnification (One length = 2 cm = 100 fields)								
Reporting scale	AFB seen							
(3+)	More than 10 AFB per field in at least 20 fields							
(2+)	1- 10 AFB per field in at least 50 fields							
(1+)	10-99 AFB per field in at least 100 fields							
(Scanty) Report actual number	1-9 AFB per 100 fields							
Negative = neg	No AFB seen in at least 100 fields							

Reporting Scale For Fluorescence Microscopy (Auramine Method)								
200 X magnification (One length = 2 cm = 30 fields)								
Reporting scale	AFB seen							
(3+)	More than 250 AFB per field on average							
(2+)	25-250 AFB per field on average							
(1+)	3-24 AFB per field on average							
(Scanty) Report actual number	5-49 AFB per one length							
	if found (1- 4 AFB) in one line (Confirmation needed**)							
Negative = neg	No AFB seen in one length							

^{**}Confirmation required by another technician or prepare another smear, stain and read

- Note(1); for FM microscopy , to check reading, use the 20 x objective to scan the smear and the 40 x objective for confirming suspicious objects.
- Note(2); The typical appearance of an AFB is a long, slender, slightly curved rod but variable in shape and staining intensity.

Interpretation of Readings

Quality of reading will be assessed with the type of error (major errors/ minor errors) found. major and minor errors must be looked for. These are HF (+), HF(-), LF(+), LF(-) and QE. No error in any type is considered as optimal performance. Any major error indicates unacceptable performance and triggers an evaluation and corrective action. It is possible that no significant problems in laboratory practice will be found, and performance trends should be monitored over time. Repeated occurrence of similar minor errors is required for further evaluation.

False positive (+) result = by Laboratory technician at microscopy center but read negative by Controller

False negative (-) result = by Laboratory technician at microscopy center but read positive by Controller

Classification of errors

Bright field Microscopy

Result by		Tr. 4 1				
controller	0	1-9 AFB / 100 fields	1+	2+	3+	Total
0	Correct	LF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)	
1-9 AFB/ 100 f	LF (-)	Correct	Correct	QE	QE	
1+	HF (-)	Correct	Correct	Correct	QE	
2+	HF (-)	QE	Correct	Correct	Correct	
3+	HF (-)	QE	QE	Correct	Correct	
Total						

Fluorescence Microscopy

Result by		T-4-1				
controller	0	5-49 AFB / one length	1+	2+	3+	Total
0	Correct	LF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)	
5-49 AFB / one length	LF (-)	Correct	Correct	QE	QE	
1+	HF (-)	Correct	Correct	Correct	QE	
2+	HF (-)	QE	Correct	Correct	Correct	
3+	HF (-)	QE	QE	Correct	Correct	
Total						

Correct = Consistent result (same result by both Microscopist and Controller)

LF (+) = Low False Positive (Minor Error)

LF (-) = Low False Negative (Minor Error)

QE = Quantification Error (Minor Error)

HF (+) = High False Positive (Major Error)

Possible Causes and Suggested Actions

Type of Error	Possible Causes	Suggested Actions
	- Insufficient time spent for scanning smear	- Check scanning manner
	- Poor smearing technique (very thick smear)	- Evaluate quality of smear preparation
HFN (major errors)	- Staining problems, poor stain, insufficient staining time or heating (pale AFB, insufficient contrast in background)	- Check staining performance and stains. Use new staining reagents
	- Defective microscope	- Check microscope (position of Condenser, Diaphragm for poor light). Test with positive smear.
	- Mistranscription of the result	- Check laboratories register and compare with QC list.
	- Artifact (e.g., stain deposits or crystals) incorrectly interpreted as AFB	- Filter carbol fuchsin/Auramine O and/ or prepare new stains
HFP (major errors)	- AFB carried over in immersion oil from a previous positive smear for ZN method	- Clean x 100 objective lens and check microscopy performance
	- Staining problem and fading of Fuchsin stain of AFB	- Restain slides to check for fading
	- Mistranscription of the result	- Check laboratory register and compare with QC list.
LFN	- Insufficient time spent in scanning smear	- Check scanning manner
LFP	- Technician does not understand scoring system	- Check AFB reporting scale
QE (minor errors)	- Poor staining technique	- Check reagents and staining technique
	- Defective microscope	- Check microscope

HFN = High False Negative HFP = High False Positive QE = Quantification Error

LFN = Low False Negative LFP = Low False Positive

Possible Causes of False Reading Results

Check point	Causes	False Negative	False Positive
Спеск роше	Causes	(FN)	(FP)
Smear Size	- Too big		
Sincar Size	- Too small		
Smear Evenness	- Uneven		
Sincal Eveniness	- Sloughed-off		
Smear Thickness	- Too thick		
Silical Tillerness	- Too thin		
Smear Cleanliness	- Dirt		
Silical Cleaniness	- Artifact		
Sputum Quality	- Saliva		
Chaining	- Overheating	П	
Staining	- Insufficient heating/ time		
	- Poor decolourization		

Main Factors leading to false results

Step	False (-)	False (+)			
Specimen	- Poor quality & quantity	- Error in handling			
Speemen		- Artifact in specimen			
	- Thick, uneven and too little material	- Overheated staining			
Smear Preparation &	with too thin smear preparation	- Inadequate decolourization			
Staining	- Insufficient heating /staining	- Deposit/ Cristal in stains			
	- Intensive counterstaining				
	- Insufficient scanning	- Transfer of positive smear			
Reading	- Defective microscope	particle			
S	- Erratic attitude	- Erratic attitude			
	- Physical problem				
Recording	- Mistranscription	- Mistranscription			
Recording	- Mislabeling of specimen	- Mislabeling of specimen			

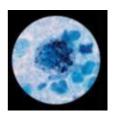
Assessment Points of Smear Slide Preparation

Quality of smear slide preparation will be evaluated in terms of six (6) check points mentioned below. All these six (6) check points will be used for ZN QC smears. Proportion of good smear preparation for each assessment point should be 90% or more. Stained smear slides can be evaluated whether they are good or poor in terms of the dominance of the following checkpoints in the smear area macroscopically and microscopically.

1) Specimen Quality: The presence of dust cell (macrophage) or presence of more than 25 leukocytes per field at total magnification of x 100 are observed.

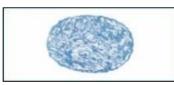


Leucocyte (x 100)



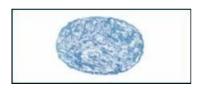
Dust cell (x 1,000)

2) Smear Size: Approximately 2 x 3 cm in size.



size of 2cm x 3cm

3) Evenness: Smear area is not extremely uneven or the smear is not sloughed off.



Good



Sloughed off

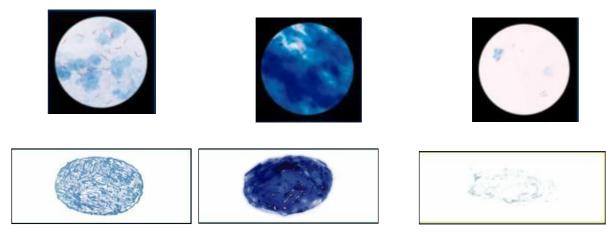


Good



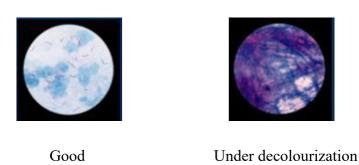
Uneven

4) Smear Thickness: The whole depth of the smear layer can be focused sharply in each field.



Good Too thick Too thin

5). Staining Quality: AFB background is clearly distinguished (over/under staining).

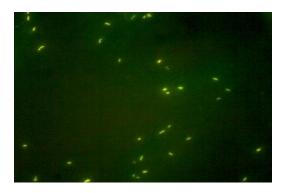


(6). Smear Cleanliness: Presence of stain deposit, dirt, debris, etc. should be avoided as much as possible so as not to cause interference in reading.

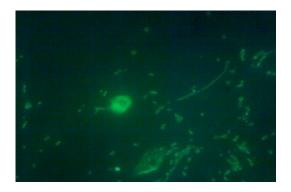


Note: Smear preparation quality of FM QC smears will be assessed with five (5) check points except staining quality and it must be used with 10x objective of fluorescence microscope by ordinary light, not by fluorescent light. Ways of assessment are the same as the ZN method.

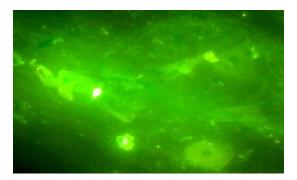
a. Auramine stained good smear with 20 x magnification



b. Auramine stained smear with stain deposit



c. Auramine stained smear with under decolorization



Feedback

The primary purpose of a rechecking program is to improve the overall quality of smear microscopy, therefore regular and timely feedback to the peripheral laboratory is essential if any improvements in performance are expected. Annual reports should be sent to the regional health authority, district physician as well as the laboratory technicians. Although final analysis of the results and conclusions have to await completion of rechecking of the whole (annual) sample, preliminary observations, feedback and remedial action will often be possible at the end of each sampling period. This will be obvious in laboratories with very poor performance where immediate problem solving is most urgently needed. If results from the controllers are to be perceived as credible, and offer an opportunity to improve performance, feedback should include returning slides with discordant results to be reread by the original technicians. This gives them a chance to show what they interpreted as AFB, or to be shown AFB they have missed. Poor performance should always be investigated to identify the reason. The investigation should include on-site evaluation visits to determine the source of the problem. In most programs, the district supervisor will bring the rechecking results to the peripheral laboratory during the routine visit, which provides an opportunity to discuss results, recognize good performance and find potential solutions to any problems. Visits by the supervising laboratory offer the best opportunity to review results of rechecking with the technicians in the peripheral laboratories, identify potential sources of error, and implement corrective action. For this reason, on-site supervisory visits by experienced staff from the intermediate or national laboratory are recommended at least once a year, and more frequently if significant problems are identified. All potential sources of error should be considered, including quality of stains and staining procedure, quality of microscopes, and administrative procedures that may contribute to recording errors. All problems contributing to errors must be resolved. Possible causes of errors and suggested evaluation steps are listed in Appendix E. Remedial training must be provided for technicians unable to properly identify AFB in smears. In some cases, no obvious problem will be detected. Supplemental panel testing and ongoing blinded rechecking are recommended to monitor performance. Due to the many variables that can affect laboratory performance, and the potential for these factors to change over time, it is recommended that rechecking be continued even after consistently good performance is achieved.

Appendices

1) Forms

Form A Worksheet for smear slide checking

Form B Feedback Sheet

Form C Supervision Checklist for TB Laboratory

Form D Follow-up Sheet

2) Consolidated Data Sheets

Form 1: Smear Slide Preparation by Microscopy Center

Form 2: Smear Slide Reading by Microscopy Center

Form 3: Smear Slide Reading (State/ Division QA Center)

Form 4: Smear Slide Preparation (State/ Division QA Center)

3) Example (Filling of Forms)

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

Quality Control Work Sheet for Sputum Smear Examination

scopy Center:		District:												
n:									Year	<u> </u>				
				Specimen Quality		Staining		nliness					Evenness	
	Msp	Con	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr
Msp = Microscopist	Con =	Contro	ller	Gd = 0	Good			Pr = P	oor	B = too	o big	S = To	oo small	
Tk = Too thick	Tn = T	oo thin		O = O	ver dec	colouriz	zation	U = Ur	nder de	colouri	zation			
rks: hy controller														
	Slide No.	Slide No.	Slide No. AFB result by Msp Con Msp Con Msp Since	Slide No. AFB Specific result by Quantum Msp Con Gd	Slide No.	Slide No.	Slide No. AFB Specimen Staining	Slide No. AFB Specimen Quality Staining Clear	Slide No.	Slide No. AFB Specimen Quality Staining Cleanliness Smeath Smeath	Solide No. AFB Specimen Staining Cleanliness Smear Size	Slide No. AFB result by Quality Staining Cleanliness Smear Size Thick Thick Result by Quality Staining Cleanliness Smear Size Thick Thick Staining Cleanliness Smear Size Thick Thick Thick Staining Cleanliness Smear Size Thick Thick Thick Staining Cleanliness Smear Size Thick Thic	Slide No. AFB	Some

20

Date:

Analyzed by (with signature):

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

Quality Control Work Sheet for Sputum Smear Examination

(with controller's result)

IVIICIOS	Microscopy Center: District:														
Month	:									Year:	_				
Sr.	Slide No.	AI resu		Specimen Quality		Staining		Cleanliness		Smear Size		Thickness		Evenness	
No.		Msp	Con	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr
1															
2															
3															
4															
5															
6															
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															
13															
14															
15															
16															
17															
18															
19															
20															

IVISP = IVIICTOSCOPIST	Con = Controller	Ga = G00a	Pr = Poor B = t	oo big	S = 100 smail
Tk = Too thick	Tn = Too thin	O = Over decolourization	U = Under decolou	rization	

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

External Quality Assessment Work Sheet for Sputum Smear Examination **Discordant Slides Form**

Microscopy Center :				District:													
												Year :					
Sr.	Month	Slide No.	result by			imen ality	Stai	ning	Cleanliness Smear Size		Thick	ness	Evenness				
No	WOTET	Cildo No.	Msp	STLS /Con	Ump	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr
1																	
2																	
3																	
4																	
5																	
6																	
7																	
8																	
9																	
10																	
11																	
12																	
13																	
14																	
15																	
	(note) Msp = Microscopist STLS = Senior TB Laboratory Supervisor Con = Controller Ump = Umpire Reader Gd = Good Pr = Poor B = too big S = Too small																
	Tk = Too thick Tn = Too thin O = Over decolourization U = Under decolourization																
Coi	Comments / Suggestions by umpire reader																
Dat	e: Analyzed by(with signature):																

External Quality Essessment

Feedback (Bright Field Microscopy)

	Fee	edback (Bright	Field Milcro	scopy)			
Microscopy Center:			Month/ Qua	arter/ Year: _			
Smear Reading							
		Result	by Microsco	opist		<u> </u>	
Result by Controller	Neg	1-9 AFB/ 100f	1+	2+	3+	Total	
Neg		LF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)		
1-9 AFB/ 100f	LF (-)			QE	QE		
1+	HF (-)				QE		
2+	HF (-)	QE					
3+	HF (-)	QE	QE				
Total							
01 15 11		·]	•	
Classification of	1	Number	No. of slide	discussed			
Major Error	HF (+)						
•	HF (-)						
	LF (+)						
Minor Error	LF (-)						
	QE						
Total No. of errors							
					•		
Smear Preparation)			
		Good	Po	oor			
	no.	%	no.	%			_
Specimen Quality							
Staining		 - 		 - 	O (%)) U (%)
Cleanliness		<u> </u>		i -			
Thickness					Tk(%)¦Tn (%)
Size				 	S (%)) B (%)
Evenness							
Good = acceptable Tk = Too thick Comments for Impr	Tn = Too t	decolourization hin	U = Under o		ion B = Too bi	9	
Date report submitted		Report by:					

External Quality Assessment

Feeback Sheet (Fluorescence Microscopy)

Microscopy Center:	Month/ Quarter/ Year:
	•

Smear Reading

Decult by Controller	Result by Microscopist						
Result by Controller	Neg	5-49 AFB/ 20f	1+	2+	3+	Total	
Neg		LF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)		
5-49 AFB/ 20 f	LF (-)			QE	QE		
1+	HF (-)				QE		
2+	HF (-)	QE					
3+	HF (-)	QE	QE				
Total							

Classificatio	n of errors	Number	No. of slide discussed
Major Error	HF (+)		
Major Error	HF (-)		
	LF (+)		
Minor Error	LF (-)		
	QE		
Total No. of errors			

Smear Preparation (Total number of slides rechecked = 6)

	(- /		
	Good	Po	oor		
	no.	%	no.	%	
Specimen Quality				 - 	
Staining					
Cleanliness				 - 	
Thickness					
Size				 	
Evenness				<u> </u>	

Good = acceptable	O = Over decolourization	U = Under decolourization
Jood - acceptable	O - Over decolourization	0 - Olidei decolodiization

Tk = Too thick Tn = Too thin S = Too small B = Too big

National Tuberculosis Programme Supervision Check List for TB Laboratory

Form C

Date:

A 1	•	_	
Name	∩t	Lowns	hın:
INGILIC	O.	IOVVIIO	ıııp.

Genaral Laboratory
TB Laboratory

Sr. No.	Questions	Answers
1	Interview with laboratory staff ●How many staff work in the laboratory? Any vacancy?	
!	● Have they received NTP training? When?	
	●Do they havce the NTP laboratory manual?	
2	Sputum Collection ■ When do patients cough up the sputum specimens?	
	•How many sputum specimens are collected from each presumtive TB?	
3	Smear request form ●How are smears requested and reported?	
	●Is the NTP smear request form used?	
4	Smear request containers ● Are there adequate supplies?	
	•Are they marked properly (laboratory number on the side)?	
	Laboratory register ●Is the NTP laboratory register used?	
	●Is it filled in completely?	
	● Do negative presumtive TB have 2 negative smears?	
5	●Do positive cases have 1 positive smears?	
	●Are positive results written in red?	
	●How many smear (diagnosis and follow - up) were examined recently	
	•Do they put township TB register number is remark column of lab. Register?	
	Slides • Are there adequate supplies?	
6	Are there adequate supplies? Is the laboratory number marked on the slide properly?	
	Check some positive and negative smears are they smeared, stained and reported correctly?	
7	Reagents • Are there sufficient quantities of reagents?	
7	●Are bottles label with the name,date of preparation and expiry ?	

	Microscope ●Type Bright Field Microsope binocular/ monocular,	
8	(electric/light), Fluorescence Microsope	
	● Condition	
	Quality Control	
	●Are slides kept for quality control?	
	●Are there sufficient slide boxes?	
	●How often are slides sent for quality control?	
9	●How are slides sampled for quality control?	
	●How long are the slides kept before sending	
	for quality control?	
	● Has the laboratory received feed-back results of	
	quality control?	
10	Disposal	
10	●Method of waste disposal (burial/ burning)	

Others:

Problems:

Suggestion Given:

Signature:

Name/ Designation:

Original to: - Microbilogist, NTP

Copy to: - State/ Regional TB Officer

- TMO or TB Team Leader

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar Follow-up Sheet

Form D

Reported by: _____

Microscopy Center:	Month:	Year :
Finding	Actions Taken	Result/ Follow - up

This sheet is filled during supervisory visit.Left one copy at Microscopy Center and one copy brought with the supervisor.The supervisor on next visit must review whether these points are improved or not.

Date report submitted:

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

Form (1)

Year:

Smear Slide Preparation by Microscopy Center

Microscopy Center:

Annual		(100)																				 		
4th Qtr		(100)																						
12		(100)																				 - 		
11		(100)																				 		
10		(100)																						
3rd Qtr		(100)																						
6		(100)																						
8		(100)																						
7		(100)																						
2nd Qtr		(100)																						small big
9		(100)																				 		S: too small B: too big
5		(100)																				 		
4		(100)																				 -		thick thin
1st Qtr		(100)																						Tk: too thick Tn: too thin
3		(100)																						
2		(100)																						no ion
1		(100)																						urizatic olurizat
	u	%	u	%		u	%			u	%		u	%			u	%			u	%		r decol er dec
	<	τ .	7000	0000	Poor	7000	D005	0	n	7	n005	Poor	7000	2000	Тĸ	Tn	7000	9000	S	В	700	D005	Poor	O: Over decolurization U: Under decolurization
Month		Slide 110. IOI EQA		Specimen Quality				Stairing			Cleanliness			Tolor	S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S			Oi.	OIZE			Evenness		

Year:

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

Smear Slide Reading by Microscopy Center

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roscopy	
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Month	_	2	3	1st Qtr	4	2	9	2nd Qtr	7	∞	6	3rd Qtr	10	7	12	4th Qtr	Annual
Slide no.																	
for QA	(100)	(100) (100) (100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)
(-) by Mx																	
(+) by Mx																	
Correct																	
HF (+)																	
HF (-)																	
LF (+)																	
LF (-)																	
QE																	
Total * n																	
Error %	<u> </u>) (()			<u> </u>	())

HF (+) = High False Positive = Major Error

HF (-) = High False Negative = Major Error

* Total error = Major error + Minor error

LF (+) = Low False Positive = Minor Error

QE= Quantification Error = Minor Error

LF (-) = Low False Negative = Minor Error

n= number

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

External Quality Assessment

Form (3)

Smear Slide Reading (State/Region, QA Center)

State/ Region:

Month/ Quarter/ Year:

Total Total	19	
Total Total	LF(+) = Low False Positive = Minor Error	
Total	LF(+) = Low False Positive = Minor Error	
	LF(+) = Low False Positive = Minor Error	 Total

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

External Quality Assessment

Form(4)

Smear Slide Preparation(State/Region, QA Center)

State	State/ Region:		1											Month/ Quarter/ Year:	Quarter/	Year:		
	Microsophy (Microsophy)	9 0010		Specimen Qty	en Qty		Staining	Э	Cleanliness	iness	F	Thickness	3		Size		Evenness	ess
	Microscopy Center	ande	A Tollide Iol	Good	Poor	Good	0	<u></u>	Good	Poor	Good	¥	ī	Good	S	В	Good	Poor
7			u															
-			%															
c			٦															
٧			%															
c			٦															
ກ			%									1						
_			٦															
4			%												-			
Ų			L								-				-			
ი			%									1						
ď			u															
0			%											-				
1			٦												-			
			%															
0			٦															
0			%															
C			u															
0			%															
,			u															
10			%															
	- Loto		u															
	וסומו		%															
			O : Ove U: Und	O : Over decolourization U: Under decolourization	urizatio ourizatio		Tk: too thick Tn: Too thin	thick thin		S: too small B: too big	mall g		n = number	ıber				

Form A.1

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

Quality Control Work Sheet for Sputum Smear Examination

Microscopy Center: Dagon Myothit (South)	District:	East Yangon	

Month	January January									Year:	2	025			
Sr.	Slide No.		FB It by		imen ality	Stai	ning	Clear	lliness	Smea	r Size	Thick	ness	Even	ness
No.	Chide No.	Msp	Con	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr
1	23-006-1	neg													
2	23-042-2	neg													
3	23-103-1	neg													
4	23-144-2	neg													
5	23-159-1	neg													
6	23-261-2	neg													
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															
13															
14															
15															
16															
17															
18															
19															
20															
	Msp = Microscopist	Con =	Contro	ller	Gd = 0	Good			Pr = Po	oor	B = too	o big	S = To	o small	
	Tk = Too thick	Tn = T	oo thin		O = O	ver dec	olouriz	ation	U = Ur	nder de	colouri	zation			
Rema	rks: by controller														
Date:							Analy	zed k	y (wit	h sigr	nature)):			

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

Quality Control Work Sheet for Sputum Smear Examination

(with controller's result)

Microscopy Center: Dagon Myothit (South)

District: East Yangon

Month	January									Year:	_2	2025			
Sr.	Slide No.	Al resu		Spec		Stai	ning	Clean	liness	Smea		Thick	ness	Even	ness
No.		Msp	Con	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr
1	23-006-1			√		√		√		√		√		√	
2	23-042-2			✓		✓		√		√		✓		>	
3	23-103-1			√		√		√		√		√		√	
4	23-144-2			✓		✓		√		√		✓		>	
5	23-159-1			✓		✓		✓		√		✓		√	
6	23-261-2			✓		✓		✓			S		Tn		√
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															
13															
14															
15															
16															
17															
18															
19															
20															

Msp = Microscopist Con = Controller Gd = Good Pr = Poor B = too big S = Too small Tk = Too thick Tn = Too thin O = Over decolourization U = Under decolourization

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

External Quality Assessment Work Sheet for Sputum Smear Examination Discordant Slides Form

Microscopy Center: Dagon Myo Thit (South)

District; East District

Year:

Sr. No.	Month	Discordant	A	FB resu		Spec Qu	cimen ality	Sta	ining	Clean	liness		near ize	Thicl	kness	Even	ness
NO.	Wionin	Slide No.	Msp	STLS /Con	Ump	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr	Gd	Pr
1.	Jan	23-261-2	neg	5AF B	6AF B	>		>		✓			>		Tn		✓
2.																	
3.																	
4.																	
5.																	
6.																	
7.																	
8.																	
9.																	
10.																	
11.																	
12.																	
13.																	
14.																	
15.																	

(note)	Msp = Microscopist STLS = Msp = Microscopist STLS = Msp =	Senior TB laborator	y Supervisor Con-	=ControllerUmp =	Umpire reader
--------	---	---------------------	-------------------	------------------	---------------

Gd = Good Pr = Poor B = Too big S = Too small

Tk = Too thick Tn = Too thin O = Over decolourization U = Under decolourization

Comments / Suggestions by umpire reader

To make smear thicker and even. The Staining solution must be filtered before use.

Date	Analyzed by (with signature)

External Quality Essessment

Feedback (Bright Field Microscopy)

Microscopy Center:	Dagon Myothit (South)	Month/ Quarter/ Year:	January
--------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------	---------

Smear Reading

Result by Controller		Result	by Microsco	opist		Total
Result by Controller	Neg	1-9 AFB/ 100f	1+	2+	3+	TOTAL
Neg	5	LF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)	5
1-9 AFB/ 100f	LF (-)			QE	QE	1
1+	HF (-)				QE	
2+	HF (-)	QE				
3+	HF (-)	QE	QE			
Total	6	0		0	0	6

Classification of	errors	Number	No. of slide discussed
Major Error	HF (+)	0	
Major Error	HF (-)	0	
	LF (+)	0	
Minor Error	LF (-)	1	
	QE	0	
Total No. of errors		1	

Smear Preparation (Total number of slides rechecked =

	(Good	Po	oor	
	no.	%	no.	%	
Specimen Quality	6	 		 	
Staining	6	 - 		 	O (%) U (%)
Cleanliness	6			<u> </u>	
Thickness	5	83	1	17	Tk(%) Tn (17 %)
Size	5	83	1	17	S (17 %) B (%)
Evenness	3	83	1	17	

Good = acceptable	O = Over decolourization	U = Under decolourizat	tion
Tk = Too thick	Tn = Too thin	S = Too small	B = Too big

Comments for Improvement:

Smear size should be 2x3cm and thickness should be thick enough to read printed wo	ords 1	from
newspaper kept behind the slide		

Date report submitted:		Report by:
	35	· -

External Quality Assessment

Feeback Sheet (Fluorescence Microscopy)

Microscopy Center:	Dagon Myothit (South)	Month/ Quarter/ Year:	January
--------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------	---------

Smear Reading

Popult by Controller		Result by M	/licroscopist			Total
Result by Controller	Neg	5-49 AFB/ 20f	1+	2+	3+	TOTAL
Neg	5	LF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)	HF (+)	5
5-49 AFB/ 20 f	LF (-) 1			QE	QE	1
1+	HF (-)				QE	0
2+	HF (-)	QE				0
3+	HF (-)	QE	QE			0
Total	6	0	0	0	0	6

Classification of errors		Number	No. of slide discussed
Major Error	HF (+)	0	
Major Error	HF (-)	0	
	LF (+)	0	
Minor Error	LF (-)	1	
	QE	0	
Total No. of errors		1	

Smear Preparation (Total number of slides rechecked = 6)

	() otal Hamber of onder rooms ()				
	Good		Po	oor	
	no.	%	no.	%	
Specimen Quality	6	100			
Staining					
Cleanliness	6	100		i I	
Thickness	5	83	1	17	Tk(%) Tn (17 %)
Size	5	83	1	17	S (17 %) B (%)
Evenness	5	83	1	17	

Good = acceptable	O = Over decolourization	U = Under decolouriza	tion
Tk = Too thick	Tn = Too thin	S = Too small	B = Too big

Comments for Improvement:

Smear size should be 2x3cm and thickness should be thick enough to read printed words from newspaper kept behind the slide.

Date report submitted:	Report by:
36	•

National Tuberculosis Programme Supervision Check List for TB Laboratory

Form C

Date: 6/10/2025

Name of Township: Dagon Myothit (South)

☑ Genaral Laboratory

TB Laboratory

Sr. No.	Questions	Answers
1	Interview with laboratory staff ●How many staff work in the laboratory? Any vacancy?	GI Technician (U Aung Kyaw Oo) GII Technician (Daw May Win) No Vacancy
'	● Have they received NTP training? When?	Yes. Both had Training (2012
	●Do they havce the NTP laboratory manual?	Yes.
2	Sputum Collection • When do patients cough up the sputum specimens?	At the time of visit to TB Center. Next, early morning and the another spot
	•How many sputum specimens are collected from each presumtive TB?	2 Specimens
3	Smear request form ●How are smears requested and reported?	Request for sputum examination from MO (or) Nurse from NTP
	●Is the NTP smear request form used?	Yes. Filled by request person.
4	Smear request containers • Are there adequate supplies?	Yes
4	•Are they marked properly (laboratory number on the side)?	No.
	Laboratory register ●Is the NTP laboratory register used?	Yes.
	●Is it filled in completely?	Not completely filled
	●Do negative presumtive TB have 2 negative smears?	Not all
5	●Do positive cases have 1 positive smears?	Yes
	•Are positive results written in red?	Yes
	●How many smear (diagnosis and follow - up) were examined recently	422 for September (20 slides/day)
	●Do they put township TB register number is remark column of lab. Register?	Some not filled
	Slides ● Are there adequate supplies?	Yes
6	•Is the laboratory number marked on the slide properly?	No. Marked 1005-15-1 Instruct to wirte 15-1005-1
	Check some positive and negative smears are they smeared, stained and reported correctly?	Check 5 negative and 5 positive slides All found correct
7	Reagents ●Are there sufficient quantities of reagents?	Yes
<i>'</i>	● Are bottles label with the name,date of preparation and expiry?	Yes

8	Microscope ●Type Bright Field Microsope binocular/ monocular, (electric/light), Fluorescence Microsope ●Condition	Olympus Binocular (electricity/ light) Good
	Quality Control ●Are slides kept for quality control?	
	● Are there sufficient slide boxes?	Yes
	●How often are slides sent for quality control?	No
9	●How are slides sampled for quality control?	Monthly, but sometimes after 2 months
	•How long are the slides kept before sending for quality control?	(6)Slides /month selected by MO
	•Has the laboratory received feed-back results of quality control?	1 month but sometimes 2-3 months
10	Disposal	Yes, but sometimes received only at next
	●Method of waste disposal (burial/ burning)	quarter

Others:

Problems: Insufficient slide boxes

Suggestion given (1) To put 5 or 10 watt bulb in the microscopy case (to prevent fungal growth)

(2) To store all the slides in slide boxes

(3) To put the label on the slide of sputum container

(4) To label the slide as (year -lab, serial number- slide number)

TMO signature

TMO signature

Signature ---Name/Designation:

Medical Technologist, NTRL, Yangon

Original to – Microbiologist, NTP Copy to – State/Regional TB officer

- TMO/TB Team leader

Follow-up Sheet

Microscopy Center:Dagon MyoThit(South) Month: May Year:

Finding	Actions Taken	Result/ Follow - up
- Township TB register no. of	- Taught the technician	During June visit found out
Dx (+) cases were not filled	how to fill TB laboratory register	that technician filled
in remark column.	properly.	township TB register no. of
		Dx (+) cases in red colour
		in remark column.
- Some smear are thin	- Advised was given to repeat	- Improvement on smear size
	making smear 2-3 times if the specimen is salivary.	and thickness seen.
- Some smear are small in size	- Smear size must be 2x3 cm and	
- Some Smear are Small In Size	coiled type.	
- Smear sticks were not dipped	- Smear sticks must be dipped	- Smear sticks were still
in antiseptic solution.	in 5% phenol and burnt the next day	not disposed properly.

Date report submitted:	Reported by: Wint
	Dr. Wint Wint Nyunt

This sheet is filled during supervisory visit.Left one copy at Microscopy Center and one copy brought with the supervisor.The supervisor on next visit must review whether these points are improved or not.

Form (1)

Year: 2

Annual

4th Qtr

(100)

(100)

(100) 4 (100) (100) 9 3rd Qtr (100) (100) 6 (100) Smear Slide Preparation by Microscopy Center 00 National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar (100) 2nd Qtr (100) S: Too small B: Too big (100) 9 (100) 9 (100) Tk: Too thick Tn: Too thin 1st Qtr (100) (100) 8 (100) Microscopy Center: Dagon Myo Thit (South) O: Over decolurization U: Under decolurization (100) 9 | 6 100 9 | 9 83 8i s 3i 2 9 9 - | % % - i & - i & - İ & - i % - į & Good Good Good Good Good Good Poor Poor Poor ř 드 \supset 0 S B Slide no. for EQA Month Specimen Quality Cleanliness Thickness Evenness Staining Size Example 8

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

Form (2)

Year

Smear Slide Reading by Microscopy Center

Microscopy Center: Dagon Myo Thit (South)

Annual (100)4th Otr (100) (100) 12 (100) Ξ (100) 9 3rd Otr (100) (100) 6 (100) 00 (100) 2nd Qtr (100) (100) 9 (100) 9 (100) 4 1st Otr (100) (100) m (100) 2 17% (100) 9 9 9 0 0 0 0 Month (+) by Mx (-) by Mx (+) H Total * n Slide no. Error % H (·) LF (+) Correct LF (·) for QA 핑

HF (+) = High False Positive = Major Error

LF (+) = Low False Positive = Minor Error

QE= Quantification Error = Minor Error

LF (-) = Low False Negative = Minor Error

* Total error = Major error + Minor error

HF (-) = High False Negative = Major Error

n = number

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

External Quality Assessment

Form (3)

Smear Slide Reading (State/Region, QA Center)

State/ Region: Yangon Region

Example 10

Month/ Quarter/ Year:

3 (15-21-1), (15-45-2), (15-93-1) No. of slides discussed 1 (15-100-1) 1 (15-125-1) 50% 6.7% 17% Major Error % Ξ m g Minor Error LF(+)! LF(-)! HF(+) HF (-) Major Error m Slide Q A į ø ø ø North Okkalapa Health Center Hlaingtharyar Health Center Shwepyithar Health Center Dagon Myo Thit (South) Thaketa Health Center Thanlyin Health Center Microscopy Center Dawbon Health Center East District (Bahan) Latha TB Dx Center Total Aung San, UTI Ξ m ₫

HF(+) = High False Positive = Major Error HF(-) = High False Negative = Major Error

LF(+) = Low False Positive = Minor Error QE = Quantification Error = Minor Error LF(-) = Low False Negative = Minor Error

State/ Region: Yangon Region

National Tuberculosis Programme, Myanmar

External Quality Assessment

Form(4)

Month/ Quarter/ Year

Smear Slide Preparation(State/Region, QA Center)

S: Too small B: Too big

Tn: Too thin

U: Under decolourization O : Over decolourization

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