

Treatment of TB

Lisa Armitige, MD, PhD September 13, 2023

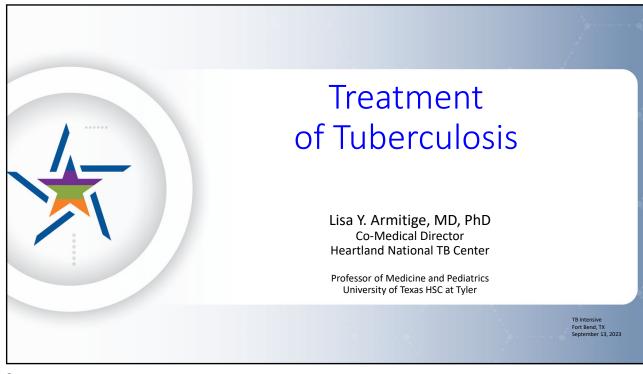
> TB Intensive September 13 – 15, 2023 Richmond, TX

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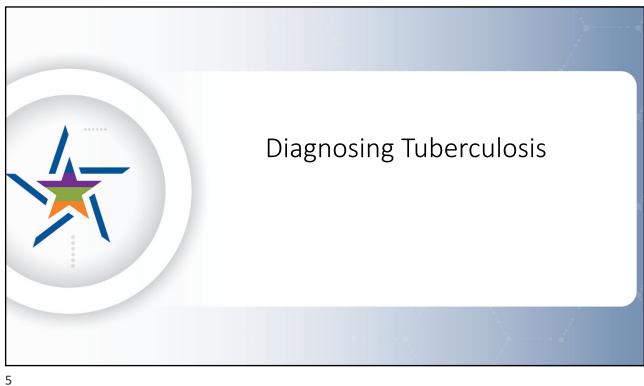
Lisa Armitige, MD, PhD has the following disclosures to make:

- No conflict of interests
- No relevant financial relationships with any commercial companies pertaining to this educational activity









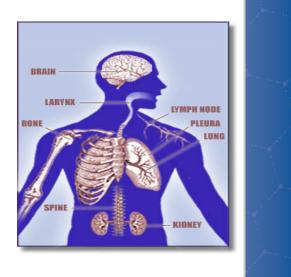
Sites of TB Disease

• Lungs



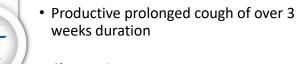
Extrapulmonary:

- Larynx
- Pleural effusion
- Kidneys
- Lymphatics
- Bones & joints
- Miliary (disseminated)



Signs & Symptoms Pulmonary TB

Pulmonary Symptoms:



- Chest pain
- Hemoptysis

Systemic Symptoms:

- Fever
- Chills
- Night sweats
- Appetite loss
- Weight loss
- Easy fatigability

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Evaluation for TB



- Medical history
- Physical examination
- Testing for TB infection
- Chest radiograph
- Bacteriologic or histologic exam

No CXR study shows findings specific for TB



Cavitary process are more likely to be TB

Common mimics of TB =

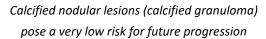
- Non-tuberculous mycobacteria (NTM)
- · fungal infection
- bacterial abscesses
- necrotic neoplasm (especially lung neoplasm)

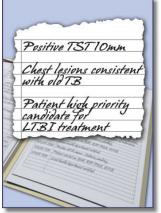
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CXR - old healed TB



- Nodules & fibrotic lesions may contain slowly multiplying bacilli = potential for progression
- CXR consistent with old TB <u>and</u>
 + TST/IGRA = high priority for LTBI treatment



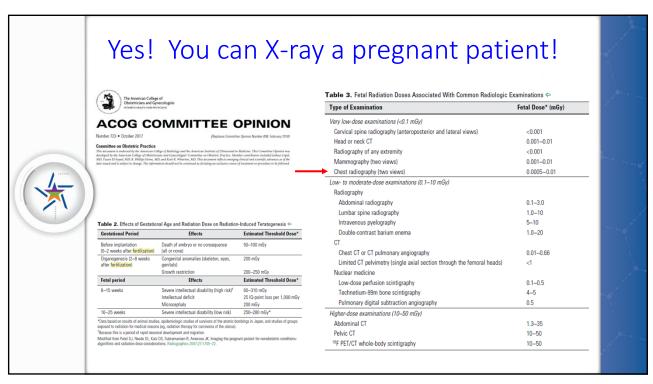


CXR - special situations



- Pregnant women who are highly suspected of having TB and are being evaluated for active disease should undergo a CXR without delay, even during the first trimester
- Patients suspected of extrapulmonary TB should have a CXR to R/O pulmonary TB

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Bacteriologic and Histologic Examinations

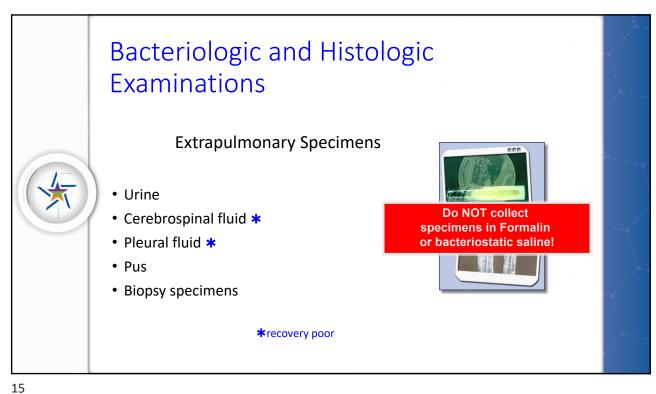
When lung or larynx is site of disease:

- 3 sputum specimens for AFB smear and culture
- Collected 8-24 hours apart
 with at least 1 early morning specimen



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Culture Yield Figure 2. Proportion of subjects with cultures positive for Mycobacterium tuberculosis, by diagnostic technique, for 78 subjects with results for all 5 sputum samples obtained by induction with nebuliced hypertonic saline (IS) and all 3 gastric washing (GW) specimens. Cumulative proportions are shown for the 5 IS samples P = 25, by paired binomial probability test comparing diagnostic yield of all 5 IS samples versus 3 day 1 IS samples. "Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) culture results were available for 19 subjects. Brown et al Clin linfect Dis 2007(44):1415



Laboratory Examination AFB smear AFB culture Nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) GeneXpert Molecular Detection of Drug Resistance (MDDR)

Treatment of Tuberculosis



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Treatment of Culture-Positive Drug Susceptible Pulmonary TB



General conclusions from the literature

- 6 mo (26 wk) is the MINIMUM duration of Rx
- 6 mo regimens require rifampin throughout and PZA for the first 2 months
- 6 mo regimens are effective without INH
- Intermittent regimens (2-3x/wk):
 - GIVEN by DOT ONLY
 - Drug susceptible isolate
 - Regimen contains INH and rifampin

Antituberculosis Drugs (ATS/CDC/IDSA)



- First-Line drugs (RIPE)
 - Isoniazid
 - Rifampin
 - Rifapentine
 - Rifabutin*
 - Ethambutol
 - Pyrazinamide
 - *Not FDA approved for TB

- Second-Line Drugs
 - Cylcoserine
 - Ethionamide
 - Levofloxacin*
 - Moxifloxacin*
 - PAS
 - Streptomycin
 - · Amikacin/Kanamycin
 - Capreomycin
 - Bedaquiline
 - Delamanid
 - Pretomanid

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Treatment of Culture-Positive Drug Susceptible Pulmonary TB



- General conclusions from the literature:
 - Without PZA minimum duration is 9 months
 - Without rifampin see Dr. Seaworth's talk but, basically, treat like MDR
 - Streptomycin and ethambutol (EMB) are approximately equivalent in effect (BUT concern about increasing Streptomycin resistance among foreign born leads to preference of EMB for initial therapy)

ATS recommendations for treatment of tuberculosis

Table 2. Drug Regimens for Microbiologically Confirmed Pulmonary Tuberculosis Caused by Drug-Susceptible Organisms



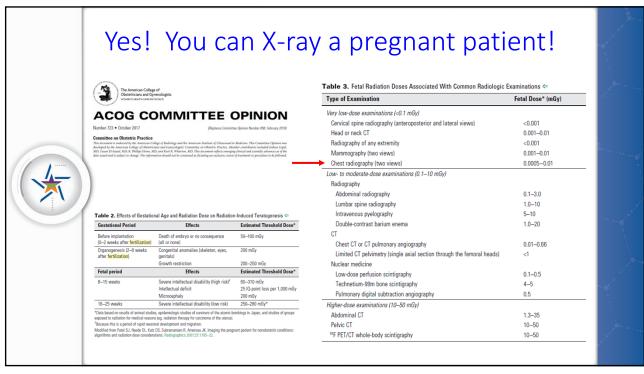
Regimen	Intensive Phase		Continuation Phase				
	Drug ^a	Interval and Dose ^b (Minimum Duration)	Drugs	Interval and Dose ^{b,} ^c (Minimum Duration)	Range of Total Doses	Comments ^{c,d}	Regimen Effectiveness
1	INH RIF PZA EMB	7 d/wk for 56 doses (8 wk), or 5 d/wk for 40 doses (8 wk)	INH RIF	7 d/wk for 126 doses (18 wk), or 5 d/wk for 90 doses (18 wk)	182–130	This is the preferred regimen for patients with newly diagnosed pulmonary tuberculosis.	Greater
2	INH RIF PZA EMB	7 d/wk for 56 doses (8 wk), or 5 d/wk for 40 doses (8 wk)	INH RIF	3 times weekly for 54 doses (18 wk)	110–94	Preferred alternative regimen in situations in which more frequent DOT during continuation phase is difficult to achieve.	
3	INH RIF PZA EMB	3 times weekly for 24 doses (8 wk)	INH RIF	3 times weekly for 54 doses (18 wk)	78	Use regimen with caution in patients with HIV and/or cavitary disease. Missed doses can lead to treatment failure, relapse, and acquired drug resistance.	*
4	INH RIF PZA EMB	7 d/wk for 14 doses then twice weekly for 12 doses ^e	INH RIF	Twice weekly for 36 doses (18 wk)	62	Do not use twice-weekly regimens in HIV-infected patients or patients with smear-positive and/or cavitary disease. If doses are missed, then therapy is equivalent to once weekly, which is inferior.	*
							Lesser

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Treatment for TB disease in Pregnancy



- A person diagnosed with or strongly suspected of having TB disease should be started on treatment without delay
- All first line drugs are generally considered safe in pregnancy
- Treatment regimen
 - PZA or no PZA?
 - Rifampin, INH, EMB for 9 months if PZA is excluded



PZA in Pregnancy



• The WHO and IUATLD endorse use of PZA in the treatment of TB in pregnancy

- The CDC 2003 treatment guidelines did not endorse use of PZA in pregnancy due to lack of studies to show safety
- Current (2016) CDC/IDSA/ATS treatment guidelines state
 - Clinicians should evaluate risk/benefit of prescribing PZA, discuss with patient, informing patient that benefits may outweigh risk
 - Patients with HIV, extrapulmonary or severe disease should receive PZA in their treatment regimen

Suspected Active TB at Delivery



• Protect the delivery team

- Try to find a negative pressure room for delivery or perhaps a room further away from the general floor, like a surgical suite
- Delivery team should wear N95 masks



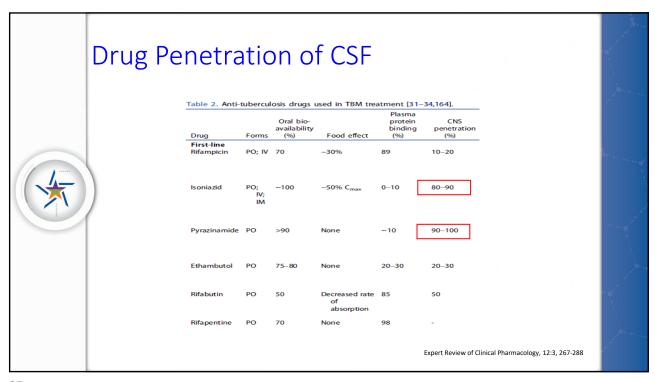
 Make arrangements to send placenta for pathologic evaluation and AFB culture

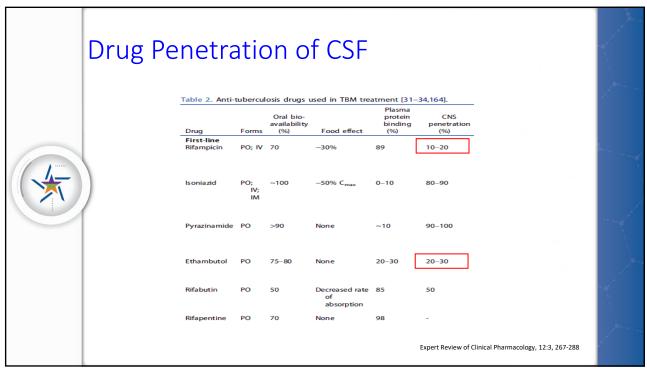
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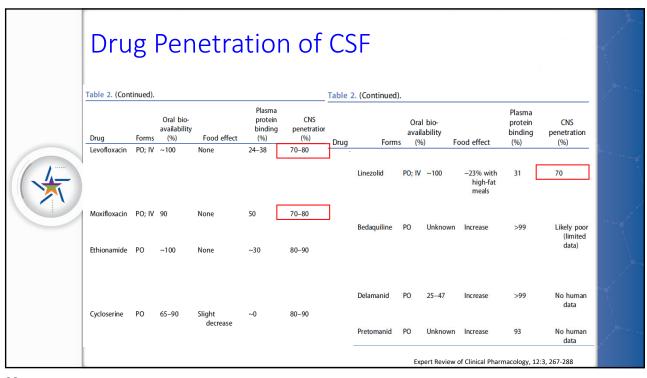
After-Delivery Concerns

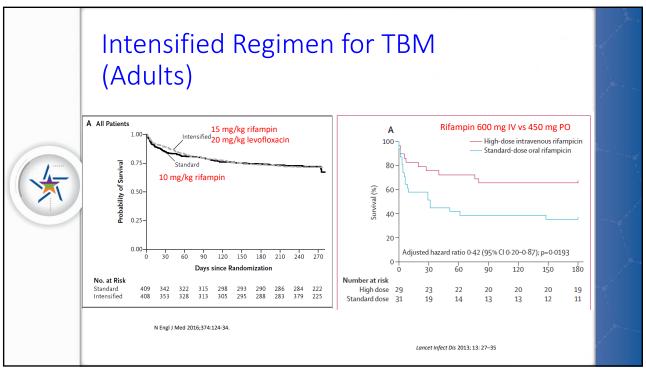


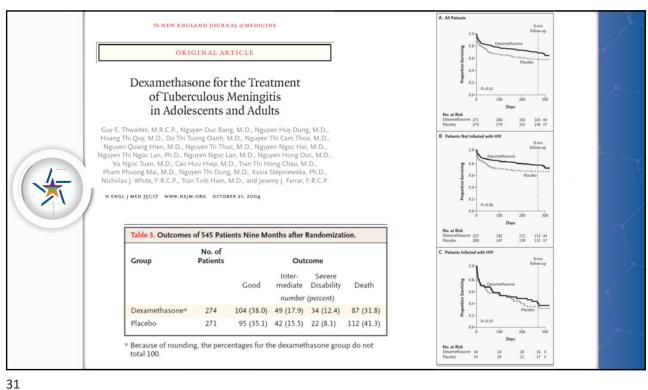
- Should you separate the patient from their infant?
 - Only if the patient is suspected of having MDR TB
 - If patient is infectious, put the baby on INH or rifampin and have the patient wear a surgical mask while holding the baby until they are no longer infectious
- Can the patient breastfeed?
 - Yes
 - First line TB drugs all into the breastmilk in low but safe levels





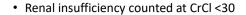






TB Drugs Cleared by the Kidneys • Ethambutol (EMB) • Pyrazinamide (PZA) Levofloxacin • Cycloserine · Anything that is injected Streptomycin Amikacin Capreomycin • Kanamycin

Treatment Regimen: Active TB with renal insufficiency





- Initial Phase (first two months):
 - INH 300mg po daily
 - Rifampin 600mg po daily
 - Ethambutol 15-25mg/kg po thrice weekly
 - PZA 25-35mg/kg po thrice weekly
 - · Vitamin B6 50mg daily
- Continuation
 - INH and Rifampin x 4 7 months

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Hepatotoxicity – What to do about it



- First, can you stop medications safely?
 - Is the patient really sick (ICU, septic sick)?
 - Does he have a form of TB you really don't want going untreated (disseminated disease, meningitis, associated with HIV or poorly controlled diabetes)?
- If the patient is ill, pick something liver-sparing and continue treatment.
- If the patient is stable, stop the medications until the liver cools off and do a drug challenge.

Incidence of serious side effects from first-line antituberculosis drugs among patients treated for active TB (Yee, AJRCCM 2003; 167: 1472)



• PZA: 1.48/100 person months of exposure

INH: 0.49/100 person months
Rif: 0.43/100 person months
EMB: 0.07/100 person months

"The drug most likely responsible for the occurrence of hepatitis or rash during therapy for active TB is PZA"

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So, what is 'liver-friendly/sparing'?



What if they are really, really sick.....?



- INH
- Rifampin
- Rifabutin
- Ethambutol (EMB)
- Pyrazinamide (PZA)
- Moxifloxacin
- Levofloxacin
- Amikacin
- Linezolid

- Liver
- Liver
- Liver/kidney
- Kidney
- Kidney (liver metabolites)
- Liver, but......
- Kidney
- Kidney
- Neither liver or kidney

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Liver sparing but not dying



- INH
- Rifampin
- Rifabutin
- Ethambutol (EMB)
- Pyrazinamide (PZA)
- Moxifloxacin
- Levofloxacin
- Amikacin
- Linezolid

- Liver
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Liver-friendly



- INH
- Rifampin
- Rifabutin
- Ethambutol (EMB)
- Pyrazinamide (PZA)
- Moxifloxacin
- Levofloxacin
- Amikacin
- Linezolid

- Liver
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What is a proper 'drug challenge'?



- Stop the medications. Cool the patient off.
- When LFTs have returned to < 2 times the ULN, you are ready to challenge
- Start with rifampin and ethambutol, then INH (or moxifloxacin if there is a shortage....), then strongly consider whether you need PZA
 - Wait 3-7 days between additions
 - Check LFTs before starting the next drug (and wait for the results, please)
 - If LFTs rise stop the last drug added and go to the next

Smear Negative Pulmonary TB



 Sputum has been collected and has resulted smear and culture negative

- Treatment recommendations are for RIPE x 2 months, then RI for 2 more months
- Consider leaving all 4 drugs or at least INH/rifampin/EMB

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M. bovis



- Unpasteurized milk products
 - Travel, gifts from foreign places
- Bladder instillation with BCG
 - Fever, sterile pyuria!
- Resistant to PZA, susceptible to INH, rifampin and EMB
 - Note: PZA monoresistance likely M. bovis or M. kansasii

Management of Treatment Interruptions



- Initial phase of therapy
 - -<14 days -complete standard # of doses
 - ->14 days restart from the beginning
- Continuation phase
 - ->80% doses by DOT if initial smear negative, may stop
 - Repeat culture
 - >3 month interruption restart from beginning
 - <3 month interruption, culture positive, restart
 - <3 month interruption, culture negative, give an additional 4 months

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Relapsed Tuberculosis



- Most relapses occur within the first 6 12 months after stopping therapy but some occur 5 or more years later
- Nearly all drug susceptible patients who were treated with a rifamycin and received DOT will relapse with drug susceptible organisms
 - Treat with standard RIPE regimen
- Patients with a history of poor adherence, self administration or self administration should have additional sputum collected and careful selection of a treatment regimen

Medical Factors Associated With Relapse of Tuberculosis



- Cavitary TB
- Extensive disease on CXR; bilateral infiltrates
- Positive 2 month culture
- · Associated medical conditions
 - Diabetes
 - HIV/
 - Malabsorption of TB drugs
- Tuberculous lymphadenitis
- Underweight at diagnosis and failure to gain
- Drug resistant disease
- Prior treatment for tuberculosis

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TB Elderly



• Hepatotoxicity and as well as other medication toxicities are more common

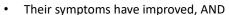
• May want to weight the risk/benefit of using PZA

Criteria to Be Considered Noninfectious

Patients no longer considered infectious if:



- 3 consecutive negative sputum smears
 - collected at least 8 hours apart
 - one early morning specimen





- Adhering to adequate treatment regimen ≥ 2 weeks (one week if smear negative to start)
 - DOT YES!
 - · Do you know drug susceptibilities?

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Treatment shortening regimen – Drug Sensitive TB

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE



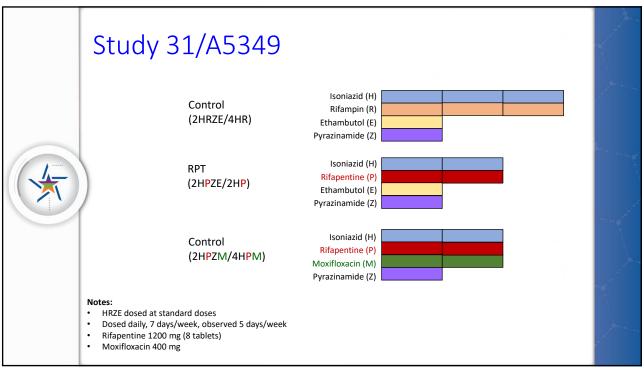
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

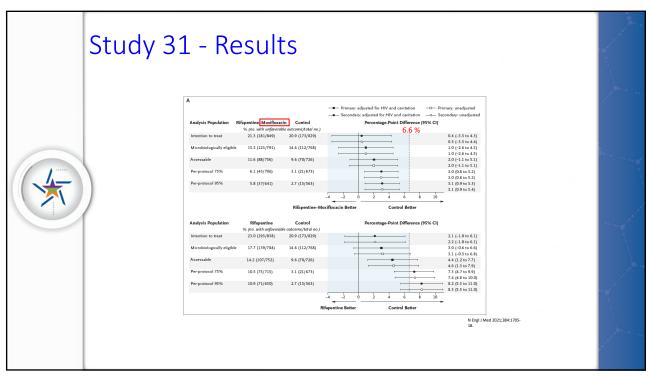
Four-Month Rifapentine Regimens with or without Moxifloxacin for Tuberculosis

S.E. Dorman, P. Nahid, E.V. Kurbatova, P.P.J. Phillips, K. Bryant, K.E. Dooley, M. Engle, S.V. Goldberg, H.T.T. Phan, J. Hakim, J.L. Johnson, M. Lourens, N.A. Martinson, G. Muzanyi, K. Narunsky, S. Nerette, N.V. Nguyen, T.H. Pham, S. Pierre, A.E. Purfield, W. Samaneka, R.M. Savic, I. Sanne, N.A. Scott, J. Shenje, E. Sizemore, A. Vernon, Z. Waja, M. Weiner, S. Swindells, and R.E. Chaisson, for the AIDS Clinical Trials Group and the Tuberculosis Trials Consortium

2234 participants (194 PLHIV, 1703 with cavity on CXR)
Randomized 1:1:1 to 3 arms
Noninferiority study

N Engl J Med 2021;384:1705-18





Challenges associated with shorter treatment regimens



• Pill burden

- Tolerability (versus safety, efficacy)
- Familiarity with the regimen
- Drug shortages (first rifapentine, now INH)

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Questions?

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