

EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS OF *MYCOBACTERIUM TUBERCULOSIS* DIRECT TEST (MTD) AND MYCOBACTERIAL CULTURE IN URINE SAMPLES

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Purpose of the study: Tuberculosis remains a public health problem in Turkey. Rapid detection of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* plays a key role in control of infection. Rapid diagnosis of extrapulmonary tuberculosis has a greater impact on patient management than on limiting spread of the disease. The Gen-Probe Amplified Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Direct Test (MTD) has been widely used as a rapid test for the identification of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Objective of the study was to evaluate the routine use of MTD in urine samples.

Methods: A total of 180 urine samples were performed acid-fast bacillus (AFB) smear and cultured. MTD test was performed according to the instructions supplied by the manufacturer.

Results: AFB smear and culture and MTD test were positive in 13(%7.2) of 180 samples. AFB smear was negative, culture and MTD test were positive in 2 (%1.1) samples. In one sample, AFB smear and culture were positive. It was found to be MTD test- equivocal of that specimen. MTD test repeated with new sample. Result was positive.

Conclusion: In conclusion, the performance of the MTD was very good in urine samples and appropriate for routine clinical diagnosis. Amplification assays cannot yet replace the conventional diagnostic techniques. Nevertheless, MTD is a reliable method for the direct detection of *M. tuberculosis* in clinical specimens.