## TB case scenario

A 63-year-old male , taxi driver presented to the emergency department with complaint of frank hemoptysis for the past 3 days. He states he complaining of cough and expectoration of yellowish sputum and shortness of breath with loss of weight for the last 2 months. He also complains of waking up in the middle of the night "drenched in sweat" for the past few weeks.

His chart indicates that he was in the emergency department last week with similar symptoms and was diagnosed with community-acquired pneumonia and discharged with azithromycin. He is smoker for 40 years . He is diabetic on insulin .

### Vitals: >

- ▶ Temperature :38.0°C
- ▶ Heart Rate: 110 beats per minute.
- Respiratory Rate: 20 breaths per minute.
- ▶ Blood Pressure: 130/75.
- Oxygen Saturation: 95% on room air.

### Local Examination >

- *Inspection*: diminished movement of the left side.
- <u>Palpation</u>: diminished expansion of the left side.
- Percussion: Dullness of the left supra mammary region.
  - <u>Auscultation</u>: diminished vesicular breath sound with crepitations on left supra mammary region.

### Labs >

> WBC: 9.48 x 109/L

> Hgb: 11.4 g/dL

> Platelets: 149 109/L

> Creatinine: 1.8

▶ 1.What are further investigations needed?

Chest x-ray revealed left sided apical cavitary lesion surrounded by heterogenous opacities.



- A Tuberculin skin test was done and was found to be positive with an induration of 25mm.
- > Sputum analysis for AFB smear was positive.

2.What are the groups at higher risk for developing TB disease?

- Diabetes,
- > silicosis,
- Impaired immunity as in HIV (human immune deficiency virus) infection, corticosteroids, immunosuppressive drugs.
- Health care providers
- Prisoners
- Gouza consumers
- > Age: greater in first 2 year of life, at puberty + adolescence.

> 3. What are the most significant issues that may suggest active TB disease in this patient?

#### **Assessment of activity:**

*Clinically*:

Symptoms: Cough, Haemoptysis, fatigue, night sweating, Weight loss.

Signs: crepitations.

- Bacteriology: +ve sputum ZN smear.
- Radiology: Cavitary lesions, Soft shadows.

• 4.What are the major differences between latent TB and active TB disease ?

## LTBI vs. TB Disease (1)

Person with LTBI	Person with TB Disease (in the lungs)
Has a small number of TB bacteria in his or her body that are alive, but under control	Has a large number of active TB bacteria in his or her body
Cannot spread TB bacteria to others	May spread TB bacteria to others
Does not feel sick, but may become sick if the bacteria become active in his or her body	May feel sick and may have symptoms such as cough, fever, or weight loss
TST or IGRA results usually positive	TST or IGRA results usually positive
Chest x-ray usually normal	Chest x-ray usually abnormal

# LTBI vs. TB Disease (2)

Person with LTBI	Person with TB Disease (in the lungs)
Sputum smears and cultures negative	Sputum smears and cultures may be positive
Should consider treatment for LTBI to prevent TB disease	Needs treatment for TB disease
Does not require respiratory isolation	May require respiratory isolation
Not a case of TB	A case of TB

• 5. What is the standard medication(s) and duration of treatment for this patient?

#### 6 months regimen:

- ► Initiation phase: Rifampicin + INH + pyrazinamide + ethambutol.  $\rightarrow$  for 2 months.
- Continuation phase: Rif + INH for 4 months

