

# Discriminatory value of tuberculin skin test and interferon gamma release assay added to clinical algorithms to detect smear-negative TB in HIV-infected patients

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**No discriminatory value of interferon release added to smear negative HIV-tuberculosis algorithms**  
Rangaka M.X, et al.  
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CIDER

Centre for Infectious Disease Epidemiology  
and Research

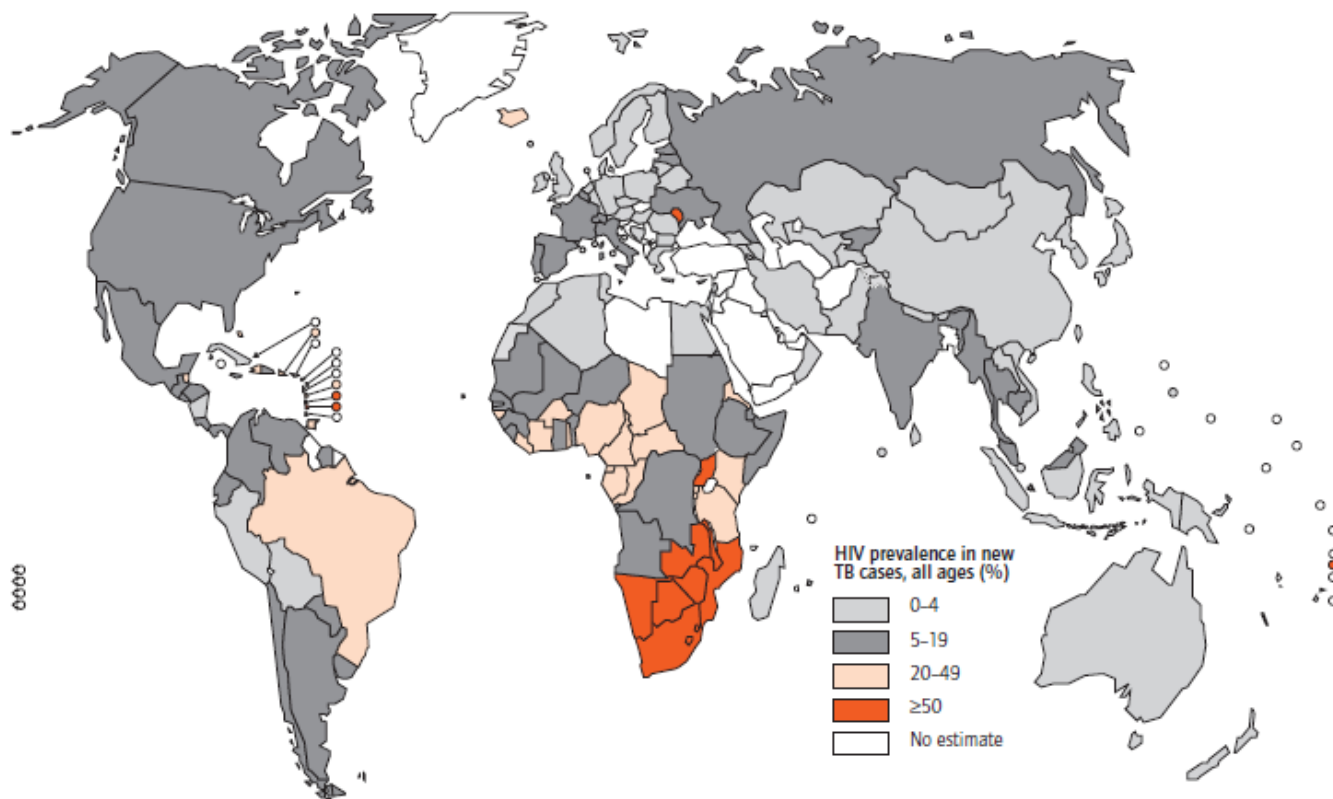


**CIDRI**  
CLINICAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
RESEARCH INITIATIVE



**welcome**trust

# Estimated HIV prevalence in TB Cases



>50% HIV prevalence in new TB cases

Priority research  
questions for  
TB/HIV in  
HIV-prevalent and  
resource-limited  
settings

# TB prevention: Gaps

## 1.6 Priority research questions in the area of TB prevention

- ◆ Accuracy and reliability of IGRAs in the diagnosis of latent *M.tb* infection and active TB in HIV-infected adults
- ◆ **Role of IGRAs in enhancing the effective application of preventive TB therapy in people living with HIV**
- ◆ Role of IGRAs in monitoring response to latent TB treatment in HIV-infected individuals
- ◆ Prognostic ability of IGRAs, compared to the TST, to accurately identify people living with HIV at higher risk for progression from latent to active TB

# The Big Question

**Does QuantiFERON Gold In tube  
add to current clinical algorithms  
to detect smear negative  
tuberculosis in HIV-infected  
patients?**



2 Nights, 5 stages,  
over 40 local &  
International artists!

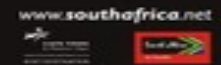
**12<sup>th</sup>**  
CAPE TOWN  
INTERNATIONAL  
**JAZZ  
FESTIVAL**

"Africa's  
**grandest**  
gathering!"

- Free Concert
- Music Workshops
- Arts Journalism
- Duo Tone Photo Exhibition
- Masterclasses
- Gigs for Kids
- Golf Day

**25 & 26 March 2011** | Cape Town International  
Convention Centre

[www.capetownjazzfest.com](http://www.capetownjazzfest.com)





Courtesy, Dr E du Toit



# Flow-chart into the study

**Study Design:** Cross-sectional evaluation of QFT-IT amongst HIV-infected

**Eligibility:** No exclusions except-should return to TST read

**Baseline Screening**

Symptoms and Signs (S+S)  
1 X Culture (Spp. ID)=reference standard)  
QuantiFERON Gold-IT and TST  
**(Tests done regardless of TB S +S)**

**Eligible participants (Nov 07- Sept 09)**

**N=1686**

Failed sputum induction=111  
Sputum culture unavailable=92  
Contaminated=70  
Non-tuberculous mycobacteria (NTM)= 8

**Reference standard available (Sputum culture)**

**N=1405**

Missing both IGRA and TST results= 373  
Missing TST alone; did not return for reading=193  
Missing IGRA alone; sample not processed/not received=55

Smear positives=19

**Smear negative with both TST and QFT-IT available**

**N=779**

# Assessing discriminatory value: Model Steps

## Potential Predictors (pre-determined)

Clinical: Age, Gender, Weight, ART status, Prior TB, TB Symptoms and signs (any one TB symptom or sign positive), CD4+ count

Simple test of TB infection: TST (5mm cutoff)

More complex: QFT-IT (Standard Manufacturer's cutoffs used)

## Model Step 1 Identify best clinical model

- Multivariable logistic regression
- Fit all clinical *a priori* determined predictors; sequentially in the manner collected at the first clinical visit
- Stepwise selection & clinical judgement

## Model Step 2 Add simple test

Add TST (5mm cutoff)

## Model Step 3 Add complex test

Add QFT-IT (Standard Manufacturer's cutoffs used)

## Model Step 4 Both tests added

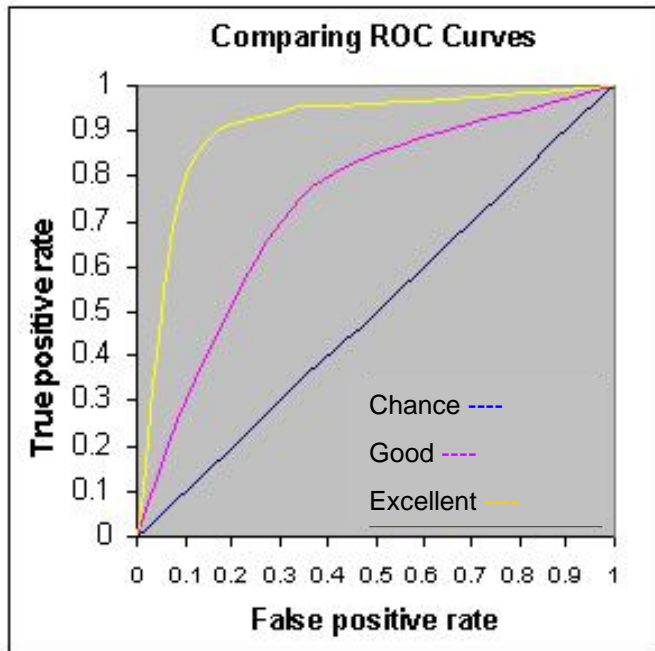
Add TST & QFT-IT

**Discriminatory ability  
assessed by AUC analysis**

## The Area Under the Curve

**Discriminatory ability** of tests to classify those with active TB *and* those without via **AUC analysis**:

- True Positive Rate (Sensitivity) vs. False Positive Rate (1-Specificity)
- Overall probability that diseased individuals will score higher than non-diseased
- No arbitrary risk probability cutoffs
- AUC comparison between models



Reference test Test under assessment	Reference test: Culture	
	(D+)	(D-)
(T+)	True Positive	False Positive
(T-)	False Negative	True Negative

Interpretation:  
Overall probability  
AUC ~ 0.50 = not better  
than chance

## Description of cohort by *M.tb* culture status: Clinical Observations

**Total N=779**

(Prevalence of smear negative TB= 6%)

Clinical and Laboratory Features	50 TB culture positive	729 TB culture negative	p-value
<b><i>Clinical Observations</i></b>			
Median Age (IQR)	35 (31-40)	36 (31-42)	0.71
Age ≥ 35 y.o	46%	45%	0.92
Male	68%	75%	0.25
No Prior TB	82%	62%	0.004
Median CD4+ count (IQR)	169 (98-239)	198 (136-315)	0.03
CD4 less 250	80%	66% (721)	0.05
Median Weight Kg (IQR)	60 (54-65)	66 (58-76)	<0.001
Weight less than 60kg	52%	33% (722)	0.01
Not on ART at screening	54%	34%	0.004

## Description of cohort by *M.tb* culture status: TB symptoms and signs

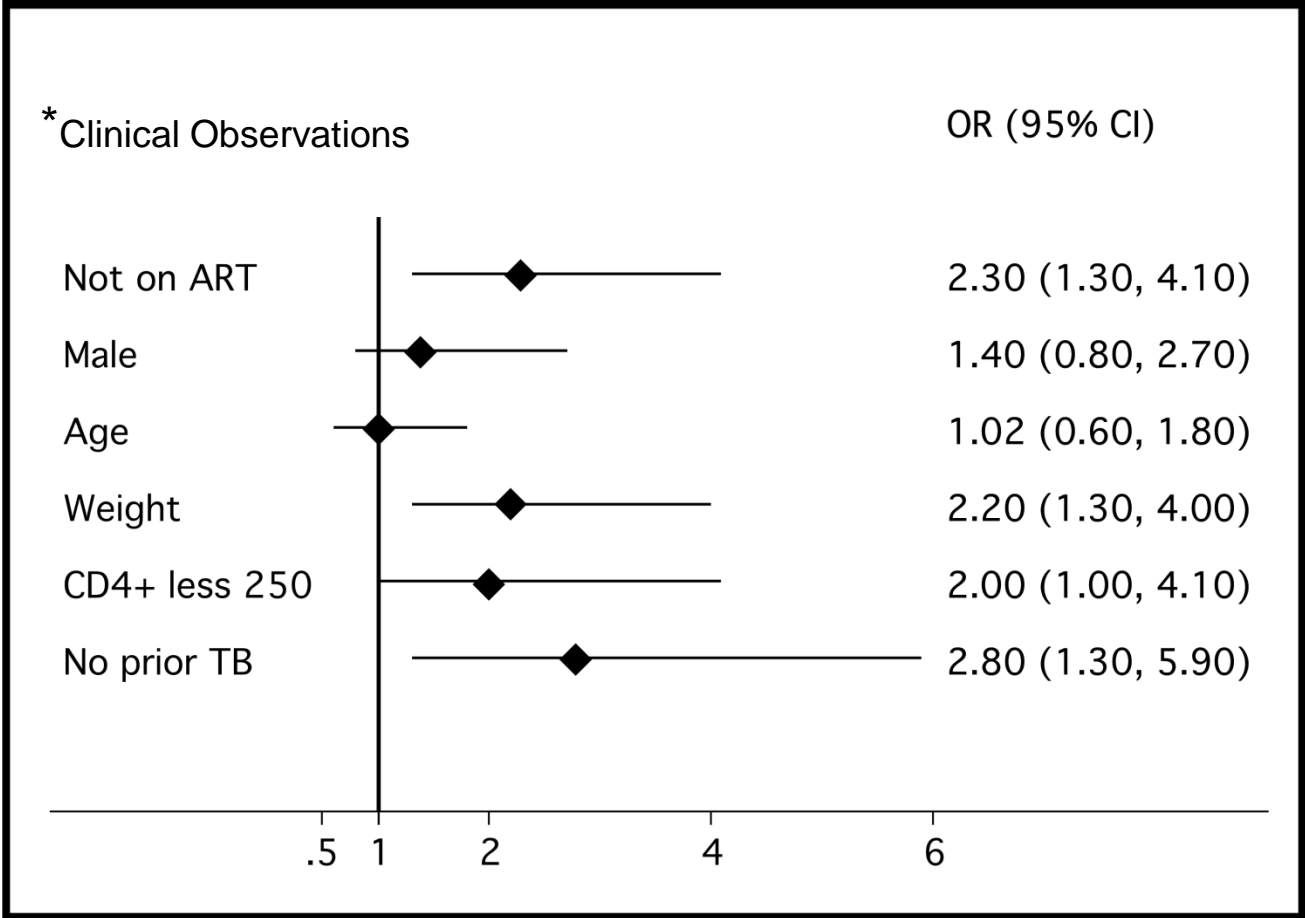
Clinical and Laboratory Features	50 TB culture positive	729 TB culture negative	p-value
<b><i>Symptoms and signs of TB</i></b>			
Cough $\geq$ two weeks	10%	4% (728)	0.05
Night sweats	10%	2% (728)	0.002
Self-reported 'Fever'	1/49	3/727	0.230 (exact)
Nodes on examination	1/49	1/728	0.122 (exact)
Loss of weight	18%	5% (728)	<0.0001
Any one TB symptom or sign positive	26%	8% (728)	<0.0001

\*Anyone symptom or sign positive: Cough for  $\geq$ 2 weeks vs. Cough for any duration

## Description of cohort by *M.tb* culture status: Tests of TB infection

Clinical and Laboratory Features	50 TB culture positive	729 TB culture negative	p-value
<b>Tests of TB infection</b>			
TST positive at 5mm cut-off	68%	41%	<0.0001
TST positive at 10mm cut-off	66%	37%	<0.0001
TST positive at 15mm cut-off	54%	26%	<0.0001
Median TST mm (IQR)	15 (0-20)	0 (0-15)	<0.0001
(Manufacturer's cutoffs)			0.004 (exact)
QFT positive	64%	41%	
QFT negative	30%	53%	
QFT Indeterminate	6%	7%	
Median QFT quantitative (IQR)	0.5 (0.1-2.6)	0.12 (0-0.85)	0.003
Either TST 5mm/IGRA positive (Indeterminate included with negatives)	80%	56%	0.001
Either TST 5mm/IGRA positive (Indeterminate results excluded)	83% (48)	59% (692)	0.001

# Univariable predictors of culture-positive TB disease



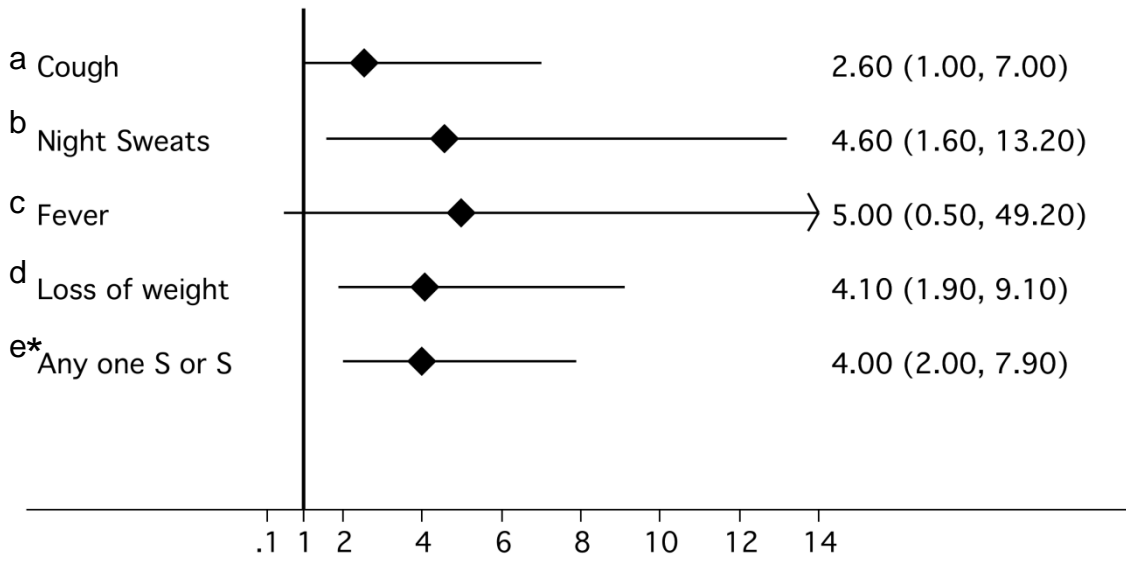
\*Age $\geq$ 35y.o, Weight less than 60kg

# Univariate predictors of culture-positive TB disease

## Test Accuracy

TB Symptoms and Signs

OR (95% CI)

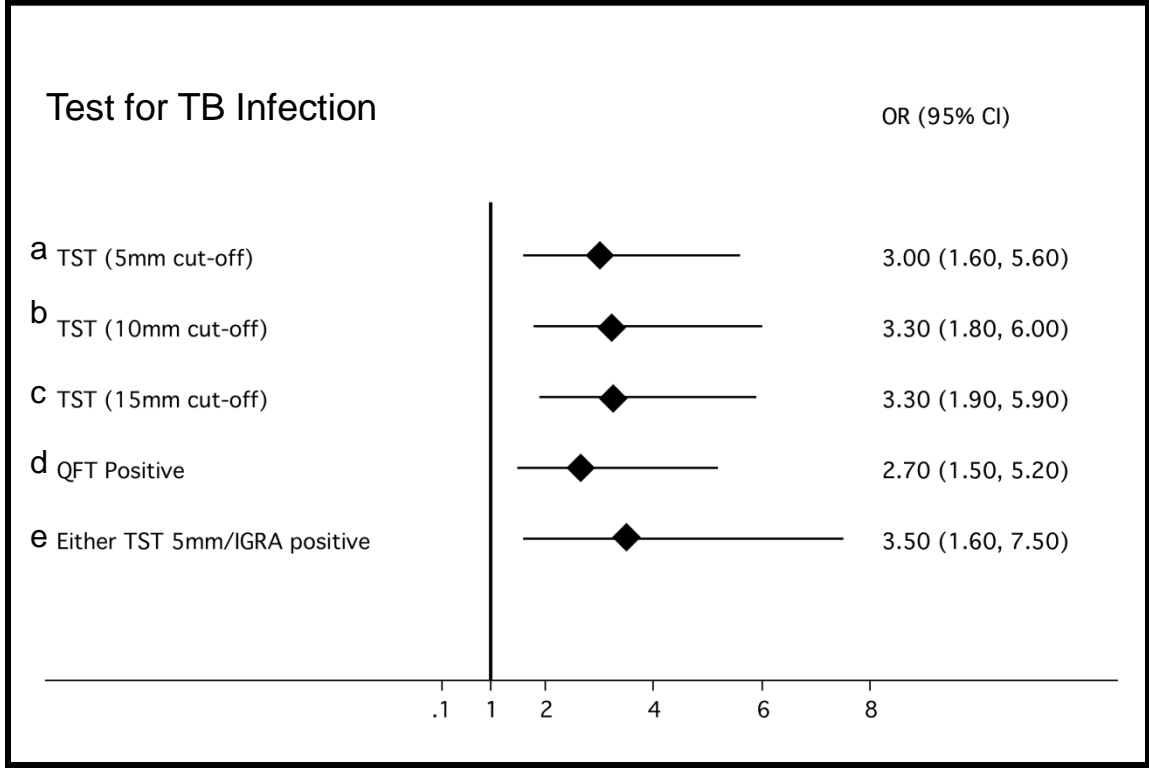


	Sensitivity	Specificity	Post-test Pr (Neg)	AUC
a	10	96	5.7	53
b	10	98	5.7	54
c	2	100	5.7	51
d	18	95	5.7	57
e	26	92	4.8	59

Pre-test probability (Prevalence): 6%

\*Anyone symptom or sign positive: Includes Nodes and Cough for >=2 weeks

# Univariable predictors of culture-positive TB disease

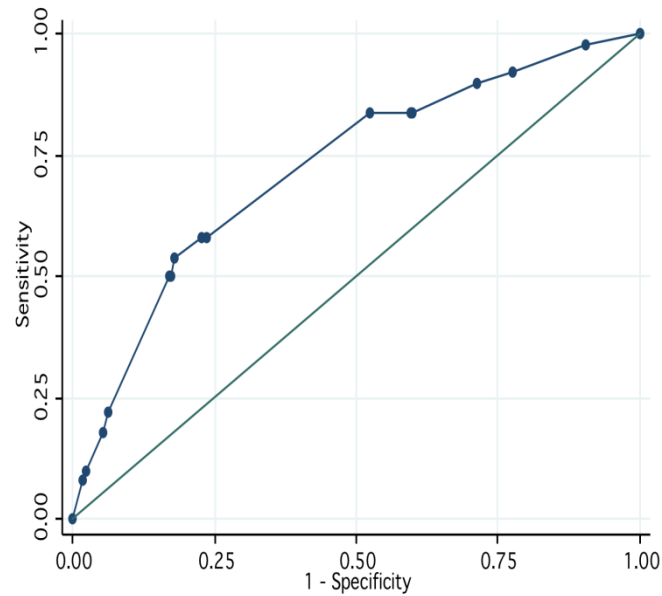


## Test Accuracy

	Sensitivity	Specificity	Post-test Pr (Neg)	AUC
a	68	59	3	63
b	66	63	3	64
c	54	74	4	64
d	68	56	4	62
e	83	41	3	62

Pre-test probability (Prevalence): 6%

## Discriminatory ability of TB tests (Multivariable Analyses)

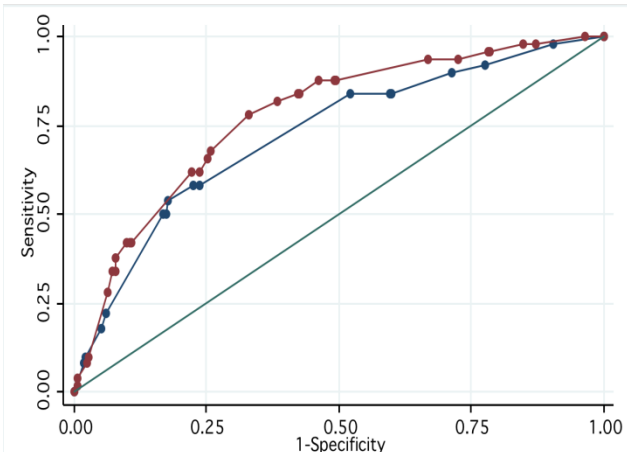


**AUC=72%**

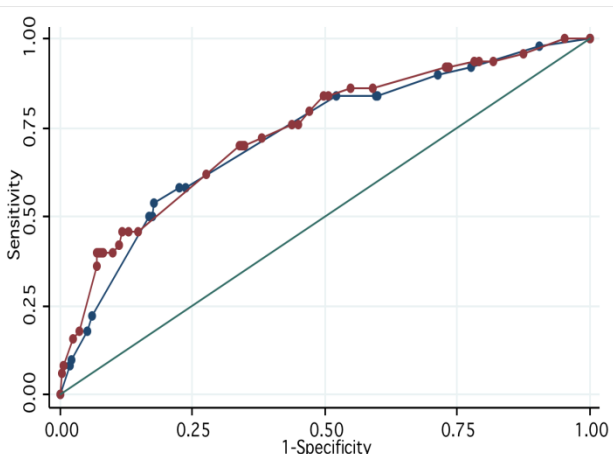
### Final clinical model

1. Weight less than 60kg, OR=2
2. No prior TB, OR=3
3. Any one TB S/S positive, OR=3
4. CD4+ less than 250 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> OR=2
5. Not on ART at screening OR=1.2

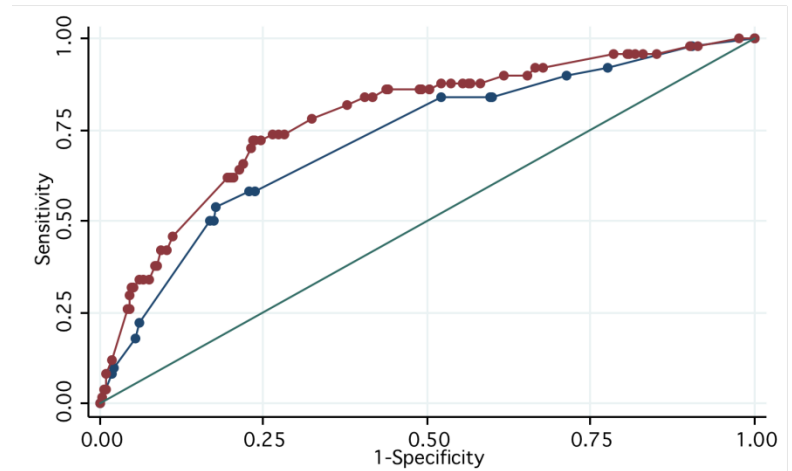
# Discriminatory ability of TB tests (Multivariable Analyses)



Clinical (**blue, AUC=72%**) AND TST at 5mm (**red, AUC=77%**)  
Comparison p-value=0.03



Clinical (**blue, AUC=72%**) AND QFT (**red, AUC=74%**)  
Comparison p-value=0.41



Clinical (**blue, AUC=72%**) and both TST & QFT (**red, AUC=78%**)  
Comparison p-value=0.01

# Summary

- High prevalence of smear negative culture-positive TB in HIV- infected patients on or starting ART screened for IPT
- Asymptomatic culture-positive TB a concern
- As stand-alone tests, current TB screening tools perform poorly against culture. Best to combine in clinical prediction rule
- QuantiFERON Gold *In Tube*, measuring interferon-gamma, adds little to TB screening tools for evaluating HIV-infected adults for IPT

# Assessing discriminatory value: Lessons learnt

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(pre-determined)

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Model Step 3  
Add complex test

Add QFT-IT (Standard  
Manufacturer's cutoffs used)

Model Step 4  
Both tests added

Add TST & QFT-IT)

Discriminatory ability  
assessed by AUC analysis

***A priori* selection of predictors N.B; clinical judgment**

**Small number of predictors: limit over-fitting**

**Multivariable model set up to 'mimic' clinical set up**

**N.B to use an objective measure of discrimination like AUC**

**All probability cutoffs considered with AUC**

**But AUC insensitive to model changes: risk stratification may be better (?)**

**Risk prediction models in ID are context specific**

# Acknowledgements



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**No discriminatory value of interferon release added to smear negative HIV-tuberculosis algorithms**

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